

## The possible outcomes of an investigation are:

### **Substantiated**

Evidence was able to prove that what was alleged did happen

### **Unsubstantiated**

It cannot be proven either way that the allegation did or did not happen

### **Unfounded**

There is no evidence to support the allegation, to prove that it is untrue or to show that the situation may have been misinterpreted by the complainant.

### **Malicious/False**

A deliberate act to deceive. For an allegation to be classified as malicious, it will be necessary to have evidence which proves the intention

## PERSONAL SUPPORT

The meeting will consider what the best support would be and who is best person or agency to provide it if your child, or a child you are caring for, is in need.

A named person will be identified to keep you informed of any developments throughout the process. You will be informed when the matter has been concluded.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find the Rochdale procedures for Managing Allegations at:

[www.rochdalesafeguarding.com](http://www.rochdalesafeguarding.com)

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

**Raising safeguarding concerns regarding professionals who work with children and young people**



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## WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS LEAFLET?

You are receiving this leaflet as information has been received which alleges that your child, or a child you care for, may have been harmed by an adult working in a position of trust. A safeguarding allegation is not the same as a complaint about a service.

The majority of people who work with children act professionally and aim to provide a safe and supportive environment for them. However, sometimes the behaviour of adults who work or volunteer with children and young people can result in allegations being made against them.

It is never acceptable for an adult in a position of trust to harm a child and therefore allegations or concerns about behaviour raised about staff, workers or volunteers in relation to children are taken seriously.

## WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICER?

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is responsible for overseeing allegations about individuals who work with children. The work can be paid, unpaid or voluntary.

A concern can be in relation to the person's behaviour at work or outside of their workplace.

The LADO may not be able share specific information regarding the alleged person involved yet will ensure that a named individual will keep you informed throughout the process.

## What happens next?

An allegation is reported to the LADO

The LADO will advise the employer as to whether a meeting should be held to decide if further action is needed

If it is necessary to investigate further a decision will be made whether information should be shared with the Police, Social Care, the professional's employer or a combination of

A strategy meeting may be convened if a member of staff has:

- Behaved in a way that has, or may have, harmed a child
- Committed a criminal offence against or related to a child
- Behaved in such a way as to indicate that they pose a risk of harm to children

Following the investigation a decision will be made to conclude the outcome as: Substantiated, Unsubstantiated, Unfounded or Malicious

Parents can be assured that the matter will be dealt with and safeguards put in place, however, parents cannot be provided with the outcomes regarding the member of staff due to data protection.



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For more information visit  
[www.rochdalesafeguarding.com](http://www.rochdalesafeguarding.com)