



'Honour' Based Abuse (HBA)

Policy and Practice Guidance 2026

What is HBA?

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The One Chance Rule

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South West Child Protection Procedures

South Gloucestershire Child Protection Procedures can be found on the South West Child Protection Procedures (SWCPP) [website](#). **'Honour' Based Abuse procedures are available [here](#)**. This two page guidance document must be read alongside the SWCPP procedure.

What is HBA?

'Honour' based abuse/violence is a collection of practices, which are used to control behaviour within families or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour. This abuse can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and / or community by breaking their honour.

Behaviours that could be seen to transgress concepts of honour and risk retribution include:

Inappropriate make up or dress

Existence of a boyfriend/perceived unsuitable relationship

Rejecting a forced marriage

Pregnancy outside of marriage

Kissing or intimacy in public

Drug or alcohol use

There are many more indicators - [click here](#)

What are the risks?

The One Chance Rule

You may only have one chance to speak to a potential victim and therefore may only have one chance to save a life. This means that all practitioners need to be aware of their responsibilities and obligations when they come across these cases. If the victim is allowed to walk out of the door without support being offered, that one chance might be wasted.

Who do I contact?

Any suspicion or disclosure of violence or abuse against a child in the name of honour should be treated equally seriously as any other suspicion or disclosure or significant harm against a child. There are significant differences in the immediate response required. Involving families can be dangerous

Contact the ART Team **01454 866000**

Make a report to Avon & Somerset Police [here](#)

If you suspect a child may be in immediate danger, you should dial [999](#) immediately

Full Guidance is available on the South West Child Protection Procedures [here](#)

[DASH Risk Checklist](#) - consider referral to [MARAC](#)

[Karma Nirvana](#) charity supporting victims and survivors of honour based abuse and forced marriage

[Our Girl website](#)

[Forced Marriage Service](#)

Where can I get more information?