

Signs of Abuse in Adults



Abuse is when someone causes harm or distress to an adult.

There are 10 main types of abuse. Here are some of the signs.

<p>1 PHYSICAL</p> <p>Hitting, slapping, pushing, misuse of medication, restraint or any causing physical harm</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexplained bruises, cuts, burns or marks • Injuries in different stages of healing • Unexplained pain or soreness • Fear of certain people or being touched 	<p>2 DOMESTIC ABUSE</p> <p>Controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour by a partner, ex-partner or family member</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruises or injuries • Appears frightened, anxious or on edge • Partner speaks for them or won't let them talk • Isolating from friends, family or activities • Lack of control over money or personal life 	<p>3 SEXUAL</p> <p>Any non-consensual sexual activity or behaviour, or imposing sexual activity</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexplained bruising around breasts, genitals or thighs • Difficulty walking or sitting • Tearful, withdrawn or changes in mood • Sexually inappropriate behaviour or language 	<p>4 PSYCHOLOGICAL/ EMOTIONAL</p> <p>Emotional abuse, threats of harm, humiliation, intimidation, isolation or constant criticism</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low self-esteem or lack of confidence • Anxiety, depression or mood swings • Withdrawal or isolation • Appears afraid or nervous • Changes in behaviour, sleep or appetite 	<p>5 FINANCIAL/ MATERIAL</p> <p>Theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in relation to money or possessions</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexplained lack of money or belongings • Sudden changes to wills, bank accounts or power of attorney • Bills unpaid despite having money • Pressure to sign documents
<p>6 NEGLECT/ ACTS OF OMISSION</p> <p>Not meeting someone's basic physical or emotional needs, including care and support</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor personal hygiene • Inadequate clothing for weather • Pressure sores or untreated medical conditions • Dirty, unsafe, unsanitary living conditions 	<p>7 SELF-NEGLECT</p> <p>A person is unable to or unwilling to take care of themselves</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor personal hygiene • Hoarding or clutter that affects daily living • Untreated health conditions • Neglecting nutrition or medication • Isolation/ lack of support 	<p>8 DISCRIMINATORY</p> <p>Abuse because of age, gender, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or other protected characteristics</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being treated differently or unfairly • Harassment or ridicule • Lack of access to services or support • Exclusion from activities or decisions • Verbal abuse or threats 	<p>9 ORGANISATIONAL</p> <p>Neglect or poor practice with an organisation or service setting</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor care or support • Long waits for assessments or services • Lack of privacy or dignity • Staff not listening or responding • Unsafe environment 	<p>10 MODERN SLAVERY</p> <p>Forcing, controlling or coercing a person to work, provide services or engage in criminal activity</p> <p>Easy-to-find signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appears controlled or unable to leave • Signs of fear or intimidation • Lack of money or ID documents • Living in poor conditions • Unexplained injuries

What to do if you are concerned.



Help & Advice

If an Adult is in immediate danger, call 999.

For advice or to report a concern contact 01454 868007 or 01454 615165

Who can help?

- Adult Social Care
- Your Safeguarding Lead/ Manager
- GP or Healthcare Professional
- Police (Non emergency 101)
- Local safeguarding partnership

Key Principles of Safeguarding

- Empowerment
- Prevention
- Proportionality
- Protection
- Partnership
- Accountability