

Local Authority Designated Officer **LADO**

Worried about the behaviour of someone who works or volunteers with children?

When to contact the LADO?

If an allegation is made against anyone who works or volunteers with children and young people the LADO should be notified within 24 hours.

What is an allegation?

An allegation is distinct from a complaint or a low-level concern.

An allegation is when a member of staff or a volunteer (who works with children / young people) has or may have:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child – **HARM Threshold**
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child – **CRIMINAL Threshold**
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children – **RISK Threshold**
- behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children – **SUITABILITY Threshold**

This includes concerns related to their professional and private life.

If you believe any of the criteria are met please notify LADO within 24 hours by downloading the notification form.

To download a form



Find out more



Want to know more?

Following the QR code will take you to the North Yorkshire Practice guidance for managing allegations.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

In the first instance you should consult your organisations safeguarding policies and procedures and discuss your concerns with the designated safeguarding lead.

Worried about a child?

If there are significant concerns about the immediate safety of a child call 999 as soon as it is safe to do so.

Everyone has a responsibility to refer a child when it is believed or suspected that a child:

- has suffered significant harm and /or;
- is likely to suffer significant harm and/or;
- has developmental and welfare needs which are likely only to be met through provision of family support services (with agreement of the child's parent).

If you believe the situation is urgent but does not require the police, please call 0300 1312131 to make a telephone contact.

A written referral using the universal notification form must be completed and submitted within 24 hours of your telephone call.

Find out more



Useful Resources, Guides and Training Events

The LADO webpage has a variety of useful resources. Including:

- Training events, webinars and podcasts.
- Resources to promote a safeguarding culture.
- Quick guides to develop practice when managing allegations.
- Leaflets for children and staff members to help explain what will happen if an allegation is made.

Find out more



Worried about the behaviour of someone who works with adults with care and support needs?

Follow the Managing Concerns around People in Positions of Trust (PiPoT) Policy to raise a concern with the Adult Safeguarding Team.

Find out more

