

# Children and Families Service

# One Minute Guide

June 2011

## Safeguarding

### What is it?

The Government defines 'safeguarding' as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care

and undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully. [Working together to safeguard children, 2010](#)

### Why are we doing it?

For most children, their experience of family life is good. However some experience abusive or poor parenting. All families experience difficulties and are differently equipped to cope with them and the impact on their children. Safeguarding responsibilities cover the range of activities from providing support at an early stage to prevent harm through to statutory interventions to protect children. The responsibility to safeguard our children is important for all those who come into contact with children and families in their everyday work, including people who do not have a specific role in relation to child protection.

### Who is involved?

The safeguarding of children is dependent upon effective, proactive collaboration between key partners, including statutory organisations, professional organisations and the voluntary sector. Cheshire East's Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in the borough will cooperate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do.

It is important to acknowledge that all members of the community can help to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. Anyone concerned about a child should contact the Children's Assessment Team or the Emergency Duty Team (out of hours service). The Cheshire East Safeguarding Children Procedures are available at:

[www.online-procedures.co.uk/cheshireeast/](http://www.online-procedures.co.uk/cheshireeast/)

### Key contacts

**Kate Rose, Principal Children's Safeguarding Manager, tel: 01606 288076**

**Tim Newton, LSCB Business Manager, tel: 01625 374 973**

**Children's Assessment Team, tel: 0300 123 5012**

**Emergency Duty Team, tel: 0300 123 5022**

