

## How to spot a red flag:

### Parents, carers and families should be wary of:

- activities where parents are discouraged from staying to watch or become involved
- activities or behaviour that encourage rough play, sexual innuendo or humiliating punishments
- individuals who take charge and operate independently of organisational guidelines
- individuals who show favouritism or personally reward specific children
- encouragement of inappropriate physical contact
- poor communication and lack of parental involvement, leaving you feeling uneasy
- children who drop out or stop going for no apparent reason
- invitations for children to spend time alone with staff or volunteers (or even to visit their home).



**If you have concerns about the safety of a child or if you ever feel that your child or any young person is ever at immediate risk of harm you must call Bracknell Forest Multi Agency Safeguarding Team.**

**If you think that a child is at risk of being harmed or neglected please contact:**

- email: [mash@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:mash@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)
- phone: 01344 352005

If you think a child is in immediate danger do not hesitate, call the police on 999. Alternatively, you can contact your local police on 101 at any time.

### Other information:

Children's charity NSPCC, provides information on keeping children and young people safe. Find out more at [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk).

**Keeping your children safe: How to choose clubs, groups, help and support safely**

**Information for parents, families and carers**



**Safeguarding - what does good look like?**





The Bracknell Forest Safeguarding Board wants all children, young people and families to be safe, secure and supported.

As a parent, carer or family member, it is important that when choosing activities, clubs or help and support for your child or children, you choose carefully.

Here, we outline what you should expect and how to identify safe, good quality services and support.

This includes when you are choosing:

- childminders/ play groups/ nurseries
- personal assistants/ care
- uniformed clubs and groups
- sports/ fitness organisations
- charities/ community groups
- private tutors
- social activities/ kids clubs
- specific hobbies/ interest groups
- faith based activities/ clubs



## Your checklist:

All clubs, groups, charities and organisations running events or activities for children should have:

- a safeguarding lead/ responsible individual to report concerns to
- clear procedures for raising complaints or concerns
- a code of conduct/ good practice guidance
- consent and emergency processes, including gathering relevant contact details and medical information
- safe recruitment processes for volunteers and staff
- volunteers and staff trained in safeguarding
- suitable supervisors to manage group sizes, different ages, abilities, activities and the venue/space
- a safe environment for activities to take place

More information on this is available at:  
[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/away-from-home/sports-clubs-activities/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/away-from-home/sports-clubs-activities/).

## Questions to ask:

- Do all the staff/volunteers have a valid Disclosure Baring Service check (DBS)?
- Who has overall responsibility for safeguarding and may I/we have a copy of your safeguarding policy and procedures?
- Are the premises safe, for example are fire notices displayed?
- Is there a parental consent and emergency contact form that I/we need to complete?
- Are the necessary building insurances in place, in date and available on request?

## Further information:

For education settings and childminders: visit the Ofsted website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted).

For any organisation, club, group or charity, you may find information on their websites.

Organisations such as faith groups, scouts/ guides and sports clubs may have connections to bigger national bodies such as; the Church of England, the Scout Association or the Football Association. If so, guidance and advice will be available on national bodies' websites regarding standards and questions to ask, as well as other information and support.

