

You must refer; you must not investigate

- 3 try to ensure no-one is placed in a position, which could cause further compromise
- 2 record the facts as you know them and give a copy to your District Commissioner
- 1 immediately tell your Group Scout Leader or District Commissioner

If you receive an allegation about any adult or about yourself:

- 4 same steps as 1-4 as in suspecting a child is being abused
- 3 advise that you will try to offer support, but that you must pass the information on
- 2 alleviate feelings of guilt and isolation, while passing no judgement
- 1 allow the child to speak without interruption, accepting what is said

If a child tells you about abuse by someone else:

- 4 ensure that no Scouting situation arises which could cause any further concern
- 3 ensure that the child has access to an independent adult
- 2 record the facts as you know them and give a copy to your District Commissioner
- 1 immediately tell your Group Scout Leader or District Commissioner

If you suspect a child is being abused:

What happens if ?

YOUNG PEOPLE FIRST

It is the policy of The Scout Association to safeguard the welfare of all members by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

A Code of good practice for Adults in Scouting.
Designed for you to keep with you - carry it.

Code of behaviour

- Do** put the 'Young People First' guidance into practice
 - Do** treat everyone with respect
 - Do** provide an example you wish others to follow
 - Do** plan activities, which involve more than one other person being present, or at least are within sight or hearing of others
 - Do** respect a young person's right to personal privacy
 - Do** have separate sleeping accommodation for leaders and young people
 - Do** provide access for young people to talk about any concerns they may have
 - Do** encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour they do not like
 - Do** avoid situations that compromise your relationship with young people and are unacceptable within a relationship of trust (e.g. a sexual relationship between a leader and a youth member over the age of consent)
 - Do** remember that someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well-intentioned
 - Do** recognise that caution is required even in sensitive moments of counselling, such as when dealing with bullying, bereavement or abuse
-

- Do NOT** permit abusive peer activities (e.g. initiation ceremonies, ridiculing, bullying)
- Do NOT** play physical contact games with young people
- Do NOT** have any inappropriate physical or verbal contact with others
- Do NOT** jump to conclusions about others without checking facts
- Do NOT** allow yourself to be drawn into inappropriate attention seeking behaviour such as tantrums or crushes
- Do NOT** show favouritism to any individual
- Do NOT** make suggestive remarks or gestures, even in fun
- Do NOT** let suspicion, disclosure or allegation of abuse, go unrecorded or unreported
- Do NOT** rely on just your good name to protect you
- Do NOT** believe "it could never happen to me"