



## Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Procedure

### Appendix 2

#### Guidance on how to respond to a child/ young person who has disclosed

##### DO:

- Do treat any allegations seriously and reassure the child that you believe what they are telling you;
- Do tell the child that they did the right thing by telling you;
- Do reassure the child they are not to blame;
- Do be honest with the child about who you have to tell and why;
- Do keep the child informed about what you have done;
- Do TAKE FURTHER ACTION;
- Do write down everything that has been said, and what has been done. Write down the facts only.
- We provide support to those young people over 18- 25 if the concern is about a young adult, please follow WSPLDs\_Safeguarding Policy and Procedure for Vulnerable Adults.

##### DON'T

- Don't make promises you can't keep e.g. don't promise that the child will never have to see the alleged person again. This is not always possible;
- Don't interrogate the child – it is not your job to carry out an investigation. This is the job of the police and social services. If you do have to ask a question, make sure it is an open-ended question;
- Don't interrupt the child or change the subject when the child starts talking to you;
- Don't cast doubt on what the child has told you. It is important that the child feels you believe them, as it has probably been very difficult for the child to tell you;
- Don't make the child feel responsible for the abuse;
- Don't do nothing – make sure you tell your nominated child protection person immediately.