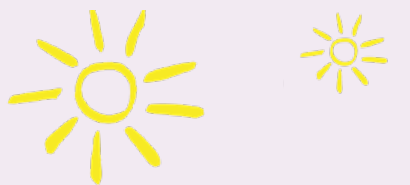




Safeguarding is everyone's business

What is
neglect and
how to tell
someone



RBSCP

ROCHDALE BOROUGH
SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

rochdalesafeguarding.com

What is neglect?

Every child and young person has the right to be looked after properly. If you're not getting the important things you need at home, and it's affecting your health, your development, the way you feel, or your safety then we want you to let someone you trust know when we can help.

You should have:

- *Clothes that are clean and warm and shoes that fit and keep you dry*
- *Enough to eat and drink*
- *Protection from dangerous situations*
- *Somewhere warm, dry and comfortable to sleep*
- *Help when you're ill or you've been hurt*
- *Love and care from your parents or carers*
- *Support with your education*
- *Access and help with medication if needed*

There may be other things that you want, like a new phone or new trainers, but those are different to the things that you need. Your parents or carers should make sure you have access to the needs listed above and if you have a disability you should be supported in whatever extra ways that you need.

What are the reasons for neglect?

There are many reasons why children or young people are neglected. Families normally try their best to provide children with enough to eat and drink, help their children develop and provide for their health and safety, but sometimes other things stop them. They might not have enough money, they could have problems with drugs or alcohol or they may have difficulties with their own physical or mental health, which stops them from making sure their child's needs are met. There are many ways that organisations across the borough can help.

If any of this is happening to you, it's important to tell someone. None of this is your fault.

Every child and young person has the right to be looked after properly. Sometimes parents and carers can't manage this by themselves. We can help.

How can I tell if someone is being neglected?

If you think a friend is being neglected there are things you can do to help them. But it's not always clear if someone's experiencing neglect or not. If you're worried about someone, you could see if you notice any of these things:

- *They seem like they haven't washed, are dirty or smelly, or their clothes seem dirty*
- *They are hungry or asking for other people's food*
- *They often come to school with no lunch money or packed lunch*
- *Their parents don't seem to know where they are or what they are doing*
- *They often don't turn up for school, or they often arrive late*
- *They don't seem to have many friends*
- *They get sent to school even when they are really unwell*

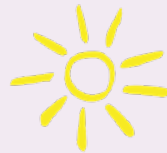
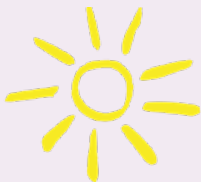


How do I know if it is neglect?

It can be hard to work out if you or someone you know is being neglected. Sometimes parents or carers may not even realise they're neglecting their children.

If you're worried about anything to do with neglect, you could speak to an adult that you trust, such as a teacher at school, or you can call Childline for free on 0800 1111 and chat with a counsellor any time.

This information is provided by Childline a service provided by NSPCC.



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