



The **Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board** is an independent body which co-ordinates what is done by agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and ensures that agencies are fulfilling their role in this.

For example:

- ❖ **Agreeing Policies And Procedures On Safeguarding**
- ❖ **Organising and Delivering FREE training on safeguarding**
- ❖ **Challenges and asks questions about how agencies are keeping children safe**
- ❖ **Undertaking Serious Case Reviews**

Your Board Rep is _____

For information to access procedures or book onto training please visit www.oscb.org.uk

Are you worried about a child?

If you have concerns that a child or young person may be at risk of harm or neglect, your first point of contact is the designated member of staff with responsibility for child protection within your agency. It is your responsibility to find out who that person is.

If for any reason you are unable to seek advice or support from your designated staff member, please contact your area assessment team straight away. They will advise you on the appropriate course of action. If it is safe to do so, (i.e. if it does not place a child/young person at risk of greater harm) please notify the parents/carers before you make the referral.

For new allegations please call:

MASH - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
08450 507666

For Existing Cases:

Children and Families Assessment Teams
South Assessment Team01865 323041
North Assessment Team01865 323039
Oxford City Assessment 01865 328563
Out of hours team.....0800 833408

(After 5pm Mon-Thurs and 4pm on Friday)

The **OSCB interagency procedures** can be found at:
<http://oxfordshirescb.proceduresonline.com/>

If a child or young person makes a disclosure of abuse or neglect to you:

- ❖ **Explain** to the child that you will share this information with a senior member of staff in order to help them.
- ❖ **Listen** carefully to what the child is saying and take it seriously.
- ❖ **Reassure** the child that they have done the right thing and tell them that you believe them.
- ❖ **Give** the child time to talk. Do not probe or ask leading questions — investigation is not your responsibility.
- ❖ **Do not promise** to keep secrets. All allegations must be acted upon.
- ❖ **Record** what has been said as soon as possible after the conversation and ensure the **MASH TEAM** are notified as soon as is practical.
- ❖ **Remember** — do not confront the alleged abuser and please ensure that information is kept confidential and only shared with people who need to know.

Allegations against staff

If someone makes an allegation about a volunteer or professional it must be reported to a senior manager within your agency. You or your agency lead person must also contact the **Local Authority Designated Officer, (LADO)** straight away. The LADO will ensure the correct steps are being followed and advise you on any further actions that need to be taken.
For all agencies contact the **LADO / Schools Safeguarding Team** on **01865 810603**

Oxfordshire Early Intervention HUBs:

Abingdon Hub: 0845 6029279 / 01865 328400
Banbury Hub: 0845 6029288 / 01865 328440
Bicester Hub: 0845 6029298 / 01865 328470
Didcot Hub: 0845 6029299 / 01865 328480
East Oxford Hub: 0845 6029315 / 01865 328490
Littlemore Hub: 0845 6416424 / 01865 816202
Witney Hub: 0845 6029284 / 01865 328730