

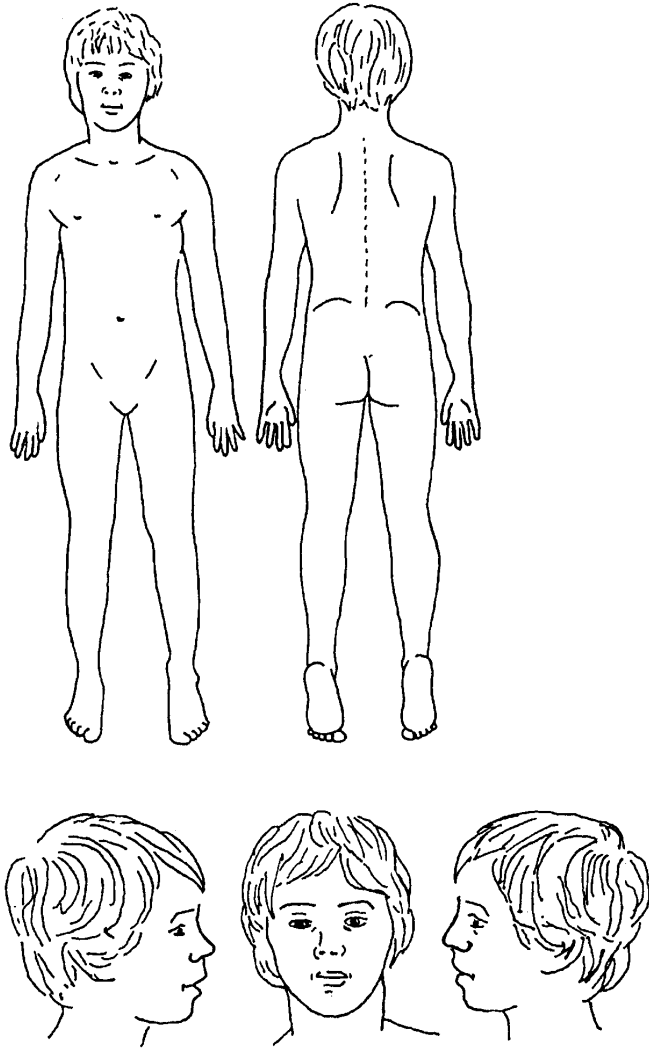


CAUSE FOR CONCERN FORM

Part 1: For use by any staff/volunteers. If the form is handwritten take care to ensure that the form is legible.
Please pass this form to your Safeguarding Coordinator without delay

Child/Adult's name (subject of concern):	Date of birth/age:	Address:
Date & time of incident:	Date and time (of writing):	
Your Name (print): Role/Job title:		
Signature:		
Other members of the household ³ :		
Record the following factually: Nature of concern, e.g. disclosure, change in behaviour, demeanour, appearance, injury, witnesses etc. <i>(please include as much detail in this section as possible. Continue overleaf and attach additional sheets if necessary.)</i>	Continue overleaf	
How did the concern come to light?		
What is the child/adult saying about what has happened? ⁴		
Any other relevant information. Previous concerns etc.		
This record must be handed to the named person for safeguarding not left or stored ⁵ :		
Names of safeguarding Co-ordinators: Nicky Phillips / Bethan Rushforth		
Date and time of discussion with Safeguarding Co-ordinator: _____		

Continued:



Guidance notes for filling out the cause of concern Form (volunteers/staff only):

Following are some helpful pointers in completing the above form:

1. **Essential principles of recording the information received/disclosed/observed:**
 - a. Remember: do not investigate or ask any leading questions
 - b. make notes within the first hour of receiving the disclosure or observing the incident
 - c. be clear and factual in your recording of the incident or disclosure
 - d. avoid giving your opinion or feelings on the matter
 - e. aim to record using the 4 W's and 1 H: When, where, what, why and how
 - f. do not share this information with anyone else except your safeguarding co-ordinator in the first instance and they will advise on who else will need to be informed, how and when.
 - g. make use of the additional information section to add any other relevant information regarding the child/adult family that you may be aware of. This can include any historic concerns or observations.
2. ***What constitutes a safeguarding concern?*** – any incident that has caused or likely to cause significant harm to a child can be classed as a safeguarding concern. Abuse is classified under four different categories (with regards to children) as already stated within the safeguarding policy (physical, sexual, emotional, neglect). With regards to adults there are 6 further categorisations. Whilst it may be helpful to record a specific category in the above form, if possible, this may not always be the case. Therefore, it is important to seek advice from your safeguarding co-ordinator or thirtyone:eight at this stage.
3. ***Why do you need information regarding 'other household members'?*** – It has been demonstrated as important to include information about significant adults in the household especially when concerns relate to children as this has been a recurrent risk factor in several serious case reviews.
4. ***Why is the view of the child/adult significant?*** It is important to give whatever detail is available of the child or adult's explanation (or verbatim) of the matter to help ascertain if it is plausible and to help offer a context to the concern identified.
5. ***DO NOT INVESTIGATE YOURSELF, Pass the information to the Safeguarding co-ordinator*** – Your safeguarding co-ordinator holds ultimate responsibility in responding to any safeguarding concerns within the church/organisation and therefore it is important that they have oversight of the actions being taken and make relevant and appropriate contact with statutory agencies if required. They will remain the most appropriate link between the organisation and external agencies.

Part 2: For use by Safeguarding Coordinator - If the form is handwritten care should be taken to ensure that the form is legible.

Information received by SC:	Date:	Time completed:	From whom:		
Any advice sought, if applicable	Date:	Time completed:	Source of advice: name/organisation:		
	Advice received:				
Advice received about informing parents or in the case of adults, seeking consent/capacity ¹ :					
Initial Assessment of concern following advice ²					
Action taken with reasons recorded <i>(e.g. Referral completed, monitoring advice given to appropriate staff, CAF etc)</i>	Date:	Time completed:	By whom:		
	Referral		To whom		
	Signposting to other community resources				
	Pastoral Care and other support from church				
	Ongoing Monitoring				
Parent/carer informed?	Y	Who spoken to:	Date:	Time:	By whom:
	N	Detail reason:			

Any other relevant information			
Name of Safeguarding Coordinator:		Signature:	

OVERVIEW OF ACTIONS³:

S.No.	Date	Outcome (if known)	Service currently involved	Ongoing support offered by church (this can include monitoring)- include dates
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Guidance notes for Form 2:

Following are some helpful pointers in completing the above form(s)

1. **Importance of consent from parents/carer or adults (in the light of mental capacity)** – With regards to children, consent of the parents is considered important before a referral is made to external agencies, unless of course doing so will place the child(ren) at greater risk of harm. With regards to adults, it is important to be aware that their consent is crucial before reporting concerns onto statutory agencies. The individual’s mental capacity will also be a significant factor to consider at this stage. You can always seek the advice of local authority social services.
2. **Initial assessment-** Based on the advice you may have received from relevant individuals/agencies (i.e. this could be school/thirtyone:eight/CEOP etc), what are the concerns categorised as?
3. **Overview of actions** - Includes a summary of the actions taken so far and who holds responsibility for it. You can use this section to add on information gathered when monitoring the situation or offering pastoral care over a defined period of time.