

What will I be told?

You will not be given detailed information about the investigation, as this will be personal information about the person who is subject to the allegation and cannot be shared with you.

Personal information about your child will not be shared with the person subject to the allegation.

Personal Support

The LADO and the other agencies involved will consider how best to support you and your child and agree who is the most appropriate person or agency to provide the support you may need.

A named person will keep you informed of any developments throughout the process.

Confidentiality

You and your child will be asked not to talk to anyone else about the allegation because this may affect how well it can be investigated and may affect the outcome.

Further Guidance

More detailed guidance can be found in the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Procedures Guidance

www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/nyscb-procedures/

Specific guidance for education is included in: “**Keeping Children Safe in Education**”

www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2

The outcome

You will be notified of the outcome of the investigation. This could be:

Substantiated: this is the outcome when there is evidence to confirm the allegation.

Unsubstantiated: this is where there are different accounts of what happened and the investigation cannot prove what did or did not happen.

Unfounded: here the investigation has found nothing to support the allegation, it may be the person reporting the allegation mistook what they saw, or they were not aware of all the circumstances.

False: here there is evidence the allegation is not true.

Malicious: this is where an allegation has been deliberately made to cause harm or hurt to someone. This is very unusual.

If the investigation has found the person has behaved unprofessionally, they may be given more training and support to help them develop their skills in their role.

However if there is evidence that the person has behaved in a way which has caused harm and may cause harm again in the future they could be removed from their role.

LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICER

LADO

Leaflet for Parents and Carers

LADO referral – What happens next?



Why are you receiving this leaflet?

You are receiving this leaflet because information has been received which alleges your child, or a child you care for, may have been harmed by an adult working in a position of trust.

A safeguarding allegation is not the same as a complaint about a service.

The majority of people who work with children act professionally and aim to provide a safe and supportive environment for them.

However, sometimes the behaviour of adults who work or volunteer with children and young people can result in allegations being made against them.

It is never acceptable for an adult in a position of trust to harm a child and therefore allegations or concerns about behaviour raised about staff, workers or volunteers in relation to children are always taken seriously.

An allegation can be raised about someone working with children in relation to their behaviour at work or outside of their workplace.

Who is the LADO?

All allegations against people working or volunteering with children or young people have to be reported to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).

It is the responsibility of the LADO to manage allegations and to make sure all allegations are properly and thoroughly investigated. They will help all the professionals involved with the allegation to plan and coordinate their enquiries.

The LADO does not investigate but helps professionals agree who will take forward enquiries. The LADO is responsible for overseeing allegations about individuals who work with children to ensure all children are protected.

The LADO will not be able to share specific information regarding the alleged person involved. However, they will ensure that a named individual will keep you informed throughout the process.

If you would like to find out more about managing allegations visit:

www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/procedures-practice-guidance-and-one-minute-guides/managing-allegations-against-those-who-work-or-volunteer-with-children/

How will the allegation be investigated? and, who will be told?

The allegation has been reported to the LADO

The LADO will consider whether a meeting should be held with all relevant agencies to share information and decide if further investigation and/or action is needed.

If it is necessary to investigate further, a decision will be made who will do this. This could be either the Police, Social Care or the subject's employer or a combination of all these agencies

The investigators may wish to meet with your child to discuss the allegation. This will be discussed with you beforehand.

You may be also asked to contribute to the investigation.

Others who may be able to help understand what has happened will also be spoken to.

The subject of the allegation will be spoken to.

