



# ***Newtown Tennis Club***

# **Safeguarding Policy**

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## **Safeguarding**

Newtown Tennis Club is committed to safeguarding the children, young people and adults attending our club; they are entitled to play tennis free from harm in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment. Whether you are a player, parent, staff member, volunteer or member, safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone at Newtown Tennis Club.

Newtown Tennis Club safeguarding policy sets out our commitment to safeguarding and the key principles that we follow.

We also follow and uphold the All Wales Child Protection Procedures and work closely with Tennis Wales and the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to comply with the British Tennis safeguarding guidelines and policies including the Safeguarding at events, activities and competitions policy which was adopted on the 1st January 2019.

Our Coaches are experienced and LTA Accredited. They have all undergone safeguarding training, first aid training and DBS checks.

## Who to contact if you have a concern

The Safeguarding officer at Newtown Tennis Club is:

### **Martin Ellacott - Welfare Officer**

**Telephone:** 01686 630149      **Email:** ellacott1@btinternet.com

**NB If someone is in immediate danger contact the Police by calling 999**

Allegations of abuse or poor practice must be reported to the Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible. Anyone who raises an allegation or complaint will be listened to seriously and treated with dignity and respect.

In the event that the Safeguarding Leads cannot be contacted, concerns can be reported to the:

**LTA Safeguarding Team** on 0208 487 7000 or [safeguarding@LTA.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@LTA.org.uk) or

**Powys People Direct** - 01597 827666

**Out of Hours** – 0300 333 2222

Further details may be found at: <http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/social-care-support/>

### **Useful Contacts:**

**Tennis Wales' Safeguarding Officer** is Mark Vaughan and he can be contacted at: [mark.vaughan@tenniswales.org.uk](mailto:mark.vaughan@tenniswales.org.uk) / 07958 202952.

**British Tennis Services team:** 020 8487 7000

Email: [safeandinclusive@lta.org.uk](mailto:safeandinclusive@lta.org.uk)

**NSPCC:** 0808 800 5000

### **What will happen if I report abuse or neglect?**

The immediate priority is to ensure that the child and/or the adult at risk is safe and protected from any further abuse. The case will be investigated by the appropriate agency and may involve several agencies working together with relevant staff in order to establish the facts. This multi-agency approach has been advocated as the most beneficial way to protect children and adults at risk.

## **Newtown Tennis Club Safeguarding Policy**

### **1. Policy statement**

Newtown Tennis Club is committed to prioritising the well-being of all children and adults at risk, promoting safeguarding at Newtown Tennis Club at all times, including all programmes and events we run. All activities, events and trips arranged by the Newtown Tennis Club are run in accordance with the LTA's Safeguarding at Events and Competitions guidance. This Policy strives to minimise risk, deliver a positive tennis experience for everyone and respond appropriately to all safeguarding concerns/disclosures.

### **2. Use of terminology**

**Child:** a person under the age of eighteen years, where there is any safeguarding concern, anyone under the age of 18 is regarded as a child unless advised otherwise by the LTA Safeguarding Team.

**Adult at risk:** a person aged eighteen years or over who is, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of disability, age or illness; and is, or may be, unable to take care of, or unable to protect him or herself against abuse or neglect.

**Safeguarding children:** protecting children from abuse and neglect, preventing the impairment of children's health or development, ensuring that they grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care, and taking action to enable all children to have the best life chances.

**Safeguarding adults at risk:** protecting adults from abuse and/or neglect. Enabling adults to maintain control over their lives and make informed choices without coercion. Empowering adults at risk, consulting them before taking action, unless someone lacks the capacity to make a decision, or their mental health poses a risk to their own or someone else's safety, in which case, always acting in his or her best interests.

(See appendix A for full glossary of terms).

### 3. **Scope**

This Policy is applicable to all staff, volunteers, committee members, coaches, players and visitors to Newtown Tennis Club. It is in line with national legislation and applicable across the UK. Advice, guidance and support is available from the LTA Safeguarding Team or Tennis Wales safeguarding team.

### 4. **Responsibility for the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Code of Conduct and Reporting**

#### 4.1 **Procedure**

**SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY: NOT RESPONDING TO A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN IS NOT AN OPTION.**

The club specifically the Committee, has overall accountability for this Policy and its implementation

Newtown Tennis Club Welfare Officer is responsible for updating this Policy in line with legislative and government developments

All individuals involved in/present at the club are required to adhere to the Policy and Code of Conduct. The LTA Safeguarding Team, Tennis Wales and Tennis Foundation Safeguarding leads can offer support to help the club proactively safeguard.

#### 4.2 **Where there is a safeguarding concern/disclosure:**

The individual who is told about, hears, or is made aware of the concern/disclosure is responsible for following the Reporting a Safeguarding Concern Procedure shown in the flowchart below.

Unless someone is in immediate danger, they should inform Newtown Tennis Club Welfare Officer, LTA Safeguarding Team or National Safeguarding Lead or Powys People Direct

Newtown Tennis Club Welfare Officer is responsible for reporting safeguarding concerns to the LTA Safe Safeguarding Team.

The LTA Safeguarding Team is responsible for assessing all safeguarding concern/disclosures that are reported to them and working with Newtown Tennis

Club Welfare Officer, National Safeguarding Leads to follow up as appropriate on a case-by-case basis, prioritising the well-being of the child/ adult at risk at all times. Dependent on the concern/disclosure, a referral may be made to:

- **The police** in an emergency (999);
- **Local Authority Powys People Direct** - 01597 827666 Out of Hours – 0300 333 2222
- **Tennis Wales Safeguarding Officer** Mark Vaughan  
mark.vaughan@tenniswales.org.uk / 07958 202952.
- Disclosure and Barring Service: 03000 200 190
- The LTA Safeguarding and Protection Committee for advice and guidance.

## **5. Breaches of the Safeguarding Policy, Code of Conduct and Reporting Procedure**

Breaches of this Policy and/or failure to comply with the outlined responsibilities may result in the following:

Disciplinary action and possible exclusion from Newtown Tennis Club

Termination of current and future roles Newtown Tennis Club and roles in other centres/clubs, the LTA, Tennis Wales, Tennis Scotland and the Tennis Foundation.

Actions taken by players, parents or carers, staff, volunteers, officials, coaches inside or outside of the club that are seen to contradict this Policy may be considered a violation of this Policy.

Where an appeal is lodged in response to a safeguarding decision made by the club, the individual should adhere to the club's appeal procedure.

## **6. Whistleblowing**

Safeguarding children and adults at risk requires everyone to be committed to the highest possible standards of openness, integrity and accountability. As a club, we are committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people feel able to raise a genuine safeguarding concern and are confident that it will be taken seriously.

### **6.1 What is whistle blowing?**

In the context of safeguarding, “whistle blowing” is when someone raises a concern about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk.

A whistle blower may be:

- a player;
- a volunteer;
- a coach;
- other member of staff;
- an official;
- a parent;
- a member of the public.

How to raise a concern about a child or an adult at risk at the club. If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, the police should be contacted by calling 999. Where a child or an adult at risk is not in immediate danger, any concerns about their well-being should be made without delay to the Newtown Tennis Club Welfare Officer who will pass the details of the concern on to the LTA Safeguarding Team at the earliest opportunity and the relevant local authority and the police will be contacted, where appropriate.

If, however, the whistle blower does not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer, the whistle blower should contact the:

LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000, or the Local Authority **Powys People Direct** - 01597 827666 **Out of Hours** – 0300 333 2222, or the **NSPCC** on 0800 800 5000.

The Newtown Tennis Club Welfare Officer can be contacted on: 01686 630149

## 6.2 Information to include when raising a concern

The whistle blower should provide as much information as possible regarding the incident or circumstance which has given rise to the concern, including:

- their name and contact details (unless they wish to remain anonymous);
- names of individuals involved;
- date, time and location of incident/circumstance; and
- whether any witnesses were present.

### **6.3 What happens next?**

All concerns raised by a whistle blower about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to deal with each concern fairly, quickly and proportionately.

If the whistle blower does not believe that the concern has been dealt with appropriately and wishes to speak to someone outside the club or the LTA Safeguarding Team, the NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line should be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or by emailing [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk).

### **6.4 Support**

Newtown Tennis Club will not tolerate any harassment, victimisation or unfair treatment of, and will take appropriate action to protect, whistle blowers when they raise a concern in good faith.

## **7. Codes of Conduct**

### **7.1 Members of staff, volunteers and Visitors**

agree to:

- Prioritise the well-being of all children and adults at risk at all times
- Treat all children and adults at risk fairly and with respect
- Be a positive role model. Act with integrity, even when no one is looking
- Help to create a safe and inclusive environment both on and off court
- Not allow any rough or dangerous behaviour, bullying or the use of bad or inappropriate language
- Report all allegations of abuse or poor practice to the Newtown tennis Club welfare officer martin Ellacott
- Not use any sanctions that humiliate or harm a child or adult at risk
- Value and celebrate diversity and make all reasonable efforts to meet individual needs
- Keep clear boundaries between professional and personal life, including on social media
- Have the relevant consent from parents/carers, children and adults before taking or using photos and videos
- Refrain from making physical contact with children or adults unless it is necessary as part of an emergency or congratulatory (e.g. handshake / high five)
- Refrain from smoking and consuming alcohol during club activities or coaching sessions
- Ensure roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined and everyone has the required information and training
- Avoid being alone with a child or adult at risk unless there are exceptional circumstances
- Refrain from transporting children or adults at risk, unless this is required as part of Newtown Tennis Club activity and there is another adult in the vehicle
- Not abuse, neglect, harm or discriminate against anyone; or act in a way that may be interpreted as such
- Not have a relationship with anyone under 18 for whom they are coaching or responsible for
- Be acutely aware of the power that coaches and coaching assistants develop over players in the coaching relationship and avoid any intimacy (sexual or otherwise) with players

## 7.2 Code of Conduct – Club Officials, Trustees

1. **Selflessness** Trustees should act solely in terms of public benefit. They should not act in order to gain financial or other benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.

2. **Integrity** Trustees should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their role as a trustee.

3. **Objectivity** In carrying out the business of the organisation, trustees should make choices based on merit.

4. **Accountability** Trustees are accountable for their decisions and actions to their stakeholders and the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their role.

5. **Openness** Trustees should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions they take.

6. **Honesty** Trustees should declare any private interests relating to their trusteeship and take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public benefit.

7. **Leadership** Trustees should promote and support these principles by leadership and example

Additionally, Trustees of organisations that are charitable companies are subject to the same statutory duties as directors of private sector companies. Under the Companies Act 2006, directors have a duty to:

- Avoid conflicts of interest
- Not accept benefits from third parties
- Declare interest in proposed transactions or arrangements with the organisation
- Act within powers
- Promote the success of the organisation to achieve its purposes
- Exercise independent judgment
- Exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence

### **7.3 Code of Conduct for Coaches, Coaching assistants**

#### **Coaches will:**

- Always put your players' best interests at the club of everything you do.
- Treat players with respect at all times. Be honest and consistent with them.
- Treat all players fairly regardless of athletic potential, socio-economic status, age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender reassignment, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity status, religion/belief or sexual orientation.
- Encourage all players and fellow coaches and assistants to have respect for one another.
- Encourage players and other coaches and assistants to develop and maintain integrity.
- Prepare players to respond to success and failure in a dignified manner.
- Respect the confidentiality of players/parents/officials as appropriate.
- Clarify in advance with players/parents/employers the number of sessions, fees, method of payment; explain expected outcome and progression from the coaching or sessions.
- Be sensitive to your players' self-esteem when providing constructive feedback to players.
- Encourage and facilitate players' independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
- Involve the players in decisions that will affect them.
- Recognise players' right to consult with other coaches and advisers. Co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. sport scientists, doctors, physiotherapists, etc.).
- When asked to coach a player, ensure that any previous coach/player relationship has been ended by the player/others in a professional manner.
- Be acutely aware of the power that coaches and coaching assistants develop over players in the coaching relationship and avoid any intimacy (sexual or otherwise) with players.
- Avoid situations with players that could be construed as compromising and actions that others could perceive inappropriate.
- Actively discourage the use of performance enhancing drugs, and any illegal substance.
- At all times act as a role model by maintaining the highest standards of personal conduct and projecting a favourable image of tennis and of coaching at all times.

- Accept and respect the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to the rules.
- Ensure that qualifications and affiliations to associations are not misrepresented.
- Following completion of your DBS and Barred List check, report any alleged criminal offence, police investigation, court case or social care investigation to the LTA at the earliest opportunity.
- Know and abide by tennis rules, regulations and standards, and encourage players to do likewise
- Inform the Welfare Officer of any concerns you may have.

#### **7.4 Code of Conduct for Players**

Newtown Tennis Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members.

The club believes that it is important that staff, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, everyone is encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club. The club should offer a positive experience for children and young people where they can learn new skills in a safe and positive environment.

As a player of Newtown Tennis Club, you are expected to abide by the following junior code of conduct.

When playing tennis I will:

- Treat others with respect.
- Behave and listen to all instructions from the coach and assistants.
- Refrain from bullying. This includes bullying using social media, chat rooms or texting.
- Refrain from any use of rough and dangerous play.
- Not use bad language.
- Play within the rules and respect the official and their decisions.
- Respect opponents and be gracious in defeat.
- Take care of all equipment.
- Work hard and do my best.
- Enjoy my tennis.
- Talk to someone I trust or the welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at the club

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my coach:

I may:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, other team, umpire or other adults.
- Receive a time out.

In addition my coach may make my parents aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct. This may even involve me being asked to leave the club.

Newtown Tennis Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of everyone. The club believes that it is important that staff, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, everyone is encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club; The tennis club should offer a positive experience for children and young people where they can learn new skills in a safe and positive environment.

## **7.5 Code of Conduct Parents of Newtown Tennis Club**

As a Parent you are expected to:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their tennis.
- Encourage your child to learn the rules of tennis and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance. Find positive feedback even in defeat.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept judgements made by officials.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Be patient. Steady progression is unusual in children; peaks and plateaus are common.
- Your first question following any match should be: "Did you enjoy it?" not "Did you win?"

- At no stage should you communicate with your child or interfere with the on-court helpers and referees during a match – just enjoy the game and let officials take care of the rule
- At no stage should you communicate with any other child if there is an issue or problem. You should speak to the coach and/or report any issues to the Welfare Officer.
- Ensure your child understands their code of conduct. (copies available from reception or in a welcome pack)
- Always collect your child promptly at the end of a session. Inform the Coach if you are going to be late or another adult is going to collect your child.
- Pay for all tennis services on time.
- Detail any relevant medical concerns or conditions pertaining to your child on the registration form. Any changes in the state of your child's health should be reported to the coach/club prior to any activity.
- Inform the Welfare Officer of any concerns you may have.

## **8. Safeguarding People**

Newtown Tennis Club has a statutory duty under the LTA safeguarding Rules, Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 to report any person whom it believes to be an adult or child at risk, to the LTA/Local Authority.

Some of the situations children and adults at risk are affected by include abuse & neglect, child sexual exploitation (CSE), violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, female genital mutilation (FGM), human trafficking and radicalisation.

### **8.1 Who is an Adult at Risk?**

An adult at risk is a person aged 18 or over who:

- is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect
- Has needs for care and support
- As a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

*(Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014)*

### **8.2 Who is a Child at Risk?**

A child at risk is a child up to the age of 18 (including an unborn child) who:

- Is experiencing or is at risk of abuse, neglect or other forms of harm

- Has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting those needs)  
(*Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014*)

### 8.3 Who might abuse or neglect someone?

Anyone can abuse - it could be a family member, a friend, a professional person, a carer, another patient or even a stranger.

### 8.4 Where can abuse or neglect happen?

Abuse can happen anywhere - at home, in a hospital or care setting, at work, at school or in a public area.

### 8.5 Types of Abuse and Neglect

<b>Children</b>	<b>Adults</b>
<p><b>Physical Abuse</b> – deliberately hurting a child e.g. by slapping, hitting, kicking, poisoning, causing injuries such as broken bones, bruises, burns or cuts. Also includes fabricated or induced illness where parents/carers make up or cause the symptoms of illness in their child.</p>	<p><b>Physical</b> - this includes hitting, pinching, deliberately overmedicating or physically restraining someone in an inappropriate way - for example, being locked in or force-fed.</p>
<p><b>Sexual Abuse</b> – being forced or persuaded to take part in sexual activities whether or not the child understands what is happening. This includes non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, pornographic material or watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.</p>	<p><b>Sexual</b> – any sexual act to which the vulnerable adult has not consented and may not understand. For example, being touched or kissed when it is not wanted, being made to touch or kiss someone else, being raped, being made to listen to sexual comments or forced to look at sexual acts or materials</p>
<p><b>Emotional Abuse</b> – ongoing emotional maltreatment or emotional neglect that can seriously damage a child's</p>	<p><b>Emotional Abuse</b> this can happen where someone is isolated, verbally abused or threatened.</p> <p><b>Neglect</b> this includes ignoring or withholding physical or medical care</p>

<p>emotional health and development. It can involve deliberately trying to scare or humiliate a child, or isolating or ignoring them.</p> <p><b>Neglect</b> – ongoing failure to meet basic physical and psychological needs, likely to result in serious impairment of their health and development.</p> <p>There is growing awareness of other forms of child abuse such as child sexual exploitation (CSE), female genital mutilation (FGM), child trafficking and bullying/cyber bullying</p>	<p>needs. Examples are failing to provide appropriate food, shelter, heating, clothing, medical care, hygiene, personal care; inappropriate use of medication or over-medication.</p> <p><b>Financial Abuse</b> this includes taking another person's money or possessions - for example, having money or property stolen, being pressured into giving people money or changing a will, misuse of benefits, not being allowed access to money.</p>
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## Appendix A: Glossary of Terms

**Safeguarding:** protecting children from abuse and neglect, preventing the impairment of children's health or development, ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care, and taking action to enable all children to have the best life chances. Enabling adults at risk to achieve the outcomes that matter to them in their life; protecting their right to

live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. Empowering and supporting them to make choices, stay safe and raise any concerns. Beginning with the assumption that an individual is best-placed to make decisions about their own wellbeing, taking proportional action on their behalf only if someone lacks the capacity to make a decision, they are exposed to a life-threatening risk, someone else may be at risk of harm, or a criminal offence has been committed or is likely to be committed.

## **Abuse and neglect**

**Physical abuse:** A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child or adult at risk. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces illness

**Sexual abuse:** Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in abuse sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children

**Emotional abuse:** The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child or adult at risk such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on their emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child/ adult at risk that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person; not giving them opportunities to express their views; deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed, including interactions that are beyond a child or adult at risk's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing them participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing a child or adult at risk to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

**Neglect:** The persistent failure to meet a child/ adult at risk's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of their health or development. It may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment);
- protect a child/ adult at risk from physical and emotional harm or danger;
- ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's or adult at risk's basic emotional needs. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Additional examples of abuse and neglect of adults at risk

**Financial abuse:** having money or property stolen; being defrauded; being put under pressure in relation to money or other property; and having money or other property misused.

**Discriminatory abuse:** treating someone in a less favourable way and causing them harm, because of their age, gender, sexuality, gender identity, disability, socio-economic status, ethnic origin, religion and any other visible or non-visible difference.

**Domestic abuse:** includes physical, sexual, psychological or financial abuse by someone who is, or has been a partner or family member. Includes forced marriage, female genital mutilation and honour-based violence (an act of violence based on the belief that the person has brought shame on their family or culture). Domestic abuse does not necessarily involve physical contact or violence.

**Psychological abuse:** including emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks.

Organisational abuse: where the needs of an individual are not met by an organisation due to a culture of poor practice or abusive behaviour within the organisation.

**Self-neglect:** behaviour which threatens an adult's personal health or safety (but not that of others). Includes an adult's decision to not provide themselves with adequate food, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene, or medication (when indicated), or take appropriate safety precautions

**Modern slavery:** encompasses slavery, human trafficking, criminal and sexual exploitation, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

A person who is being abused may experience more than one type of abuse

- Harassment, and bullying are also abusive and can be harmful

**Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** is now recognised as a form of physical, sexual and emotional abuse that is practised across the UK

**Child Sexual Exploitation** is recognised as a form of sexual abuse in which children are sexually exploited for money, power or status

**Child trafficking** is recognised as child abuse where children are often subject to multiple forms of exploitation. Children are recruited, moved or transported to, or within the UK, then exploited, forced to work or sold

People from all cultures are subject to abuse. It cannot be condoned for religious or cultural reasons

Abuse can have immediate and long-term impacts on someone's well-being, including anxiety, depression, substance misuse, eating disorders and self-destructive Conducts, offending and anti-social conduct

Those committing abuse are most often adults, both male and female. However, child-to-child abuse also takes place.