Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility

If you are worried about a child, talk to your Safeguarding Lead within your own organisation to discuss your concerns at the earliest opportunity.

You can also seek advice from the MASH Professional Consultation Line: 0345 606 1499

The MASH consultation line is for you to discuss the most appropriate and effective way of providing or obtaining help and support for a child (or adult) you feel is at risk of abuse. This will include advice and guidance about making a referral where necessary, including how to involve parents.

You may become aware of a concern by:

- Your own observations
- Being told by the child or young person
- Being told by another person
- Being told by the abuser

In Early Help cases no Multi-Agency Referral Form should be sent to the MASH without prior discussion with the Practice Lead or Team manager of the relevant Early Help team. Where a child and family have an allocated Social Worker you will need to contact the named Social Worker Directly to discuss any concerns.

Working in partnership across Suffolk to safeguard children
If you have an **immediate** safeguarding concern you should contact ‘**Customer First**’ on:

0808 800 4005 24 hours

In an **emergency**, you can telephone 999 and contact the Police.

All referrals should be followed up by completion of a Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF) within 24 hours. The MARF is available on the LSCB website.

Suffolk LSCB has a range of leaflets, guidance, policies and procedures, including the LSCB Thresholds for Intervention document, on their website: [www.suffolkscb.org.uk](http://www.suffolkscb.org.uk)