



[Keeping Children Safe and Protected in Shropshire - What Professionals Need to Know](#) 9:47

In this video children throughout Shropshire describe the thresholds and processes for safeguarding children. It is recommended that it is watched by all professionals that work with, or have any contact with children and their families.

Keeping children safe and protected in Shropshire, what professionals need to know.

Transcript

This video is about keeping children safe and protected in Shropshire.

As children, we and our families have the right to be healthy, loved, valued, and respected, and feel happy and safe.

We want you to remember that all children and families are unique.

Let's celebrate our differences to support us to be part of a strong, resilient community in Shropshire.

In Shropshire we have this windscreen to help us, and you, to figure out what level of help me and my family might need. We're now going to talk about the green section which is Universal Services and what that means. It's important to know that all of this is available to everyone.

With your help, we can build on our strengths, as we work through our problems. It's important that we get the right people to give us the right help at the right time for as long as we need it.

We need everyone around us to help make this a reality,

Our schools and everywhere we learn and grow.

Our doctors and nurses and everyone that helps us keep our minds and bodies healthy.

Our parents and carers, and other grownups who care about and look after us. Including childminders, nursery workers and teachers.

People who look after and keep the places we spent time in fun and safe: local police, communities, libraries, parks and clubs.

How do you hear me? (No audio) What if: I don't speak, What if I can't speak, I find it hard to communicate!, I'm a baby!, I'm a child with additional needs!, I'm a child with special educational needs!, I'm a child with a disability!, (Audio resumes)

We're now going to talk about the yellow section which is Early Help, this is the responsibility of everyone who works with, or who has contact with any child and their family. All Early Help is part of Safeguarding.

Most of us have many people involved in our lives.

Most of the time, our families can find the help we need ourselves but sometimes everything just gets too much.

We know you want the best for us, but it is not always easy to know how to help.

All families have problems sometimes, and that's when we need other people to get involved to help make things for our families better. This may be through you helping my grownups in a group or offering me the chance to talk to someone at school, youth-club or even on-line, actually whatever works for us.



I want to feel safe, at home and when I'm out and about. It's scary when I don't feel safe, so I need grownups to help me understand how to make good choices and know who to talk to when I'm worried about what might be going on in my home, places I go like my friends, grandparents, or other family, or around where I live.

This might be because:

I don't have enough food at home,

I'm lonely and don't have friends,

I'm not allowed to see my dad's family,

My clothes and shoes don't fit me,

Nobody will use my preferred pronouns,

I don't feel loved,

I'm not allowed to see my mum's family,

I don't go to bed at a regular time,

I don't know who my brothers and sisters are,

No one listens to me because they're too busy looking after the little one, who needs a lot of care,

If my grownups or I talk to you, we need to know that you'll work with us and find other people that can help so our problems don't overwhelm us. We need you to remember that it's our life though, so ask us and our parents if it's ok to share what going on with other people. This is called consent.

All families are different, so you need to listen to us and treat us all with respect, even as children, we often know what would make our lives better.

What about if I feel depressed or anxious?

What about if I have ADHD? (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder)

What about if I use a wheelchair?

What if I have a long-term health condition like diabetes, eczema or asthma?

What if English isn't my first language?

What about if I have learning difficulties like dyspraxia or dyslexia?

What about if I'm overweight?

What about if I have low self-esteem?

What about if I have a long-term illness like cancer?

Please notice if we're unhappy or upset, quiet or angry. Ask us about it. This way hopefully together we can make it better, but we know that sometimes it's more complicated and other people might need to get involved.

I want to ask you to put yourselves in our shoes. Tell us if you are worried about us and what you're worried about.



If we look at the orange section, this is Targeted Early Help. It's important that you realise that not as many children and families need targeted early help. All Targeted Early Help responses are part of Safeguarding.

If you think our lives are becoming trickier, and the help we're already getting isn't enough; you may need to talk to our grown-ups about somebody giving them some extra help maybe coming to our house every week. Then there might be family meetings to make sure everybody knows what's going on and who's doing what.

My grownups fight all the time,

I'm being bullied,

My new mates are older than me and I want them to like me,

I'm not going to school regularly,

I'm left alone,

I'm being bullied online,

My grownups don't know where I am or who I'm with,

I'm only 6 and the games I play on my mobile scare me,

My grownups think they're going to win the lottery, so we've got no money for electric,

I'm asked to send photos to people I don't know that make me feel very uncomfortable,

I'm scared of being hit again if I say the wrong thing,

I'm left with my older brother and sister,

I'm worried because my grownup won't take their medication and I don't know what to do,

I've been hurt and not been taken to the doctors,

I think my grownups drink too much,

My grownups would rather spend money on drugs than food,

If I'm non-verbal. How are you going to understand about, my day, my feelings, if I'm scared, if I'm withdrawn?

What about if I'm blind or have low vision?

What about if I have a learning disability like cerebral palsy or downs syndrome?

What about if I'm d/Deaf?

What about if I have speech and language difficulties?

What about if I am autistic?

What about if I have a physical disability like cerebral palsy or spina bifida?

Do you read my body language?

Do you ask the right questions?

Do you notice my non-verbal cues?



Now we're going to have a look at the red section, this is for children who have complex and significant needs, and this can mean that children and their families may be living in very serious situations, this is what we call child protection and is part of safeguarding.

If you think I might be in danger of getting seriously hurt, I've heard people talk about this as 'significant harm', or we have lots of complicated things going on and need specialist help; then social workers or even the police might need to get involved. Before you call them, I need you to talk to me and my family and explain what you're worried about so we understand, as long as this wouldn't increase the chances of us being hurt.

Sometimes you might want to talk to somebody else you work with to share your worries, make sure everyone has all of the information about me and my family so that we can figure out the best way to help me.

Keep talking to us and each other. Your actions and decisions can help change our lives. If you keep your worries to yourself, how does that help me?

There's more information on what to do if you're worried within Shropshire Thresholds.

Please remember all of the good things in our lives. You are the people who care for us, play with us, teach us, and keep us safe.

However big or small our problems are, the really important thing is to talk to us and each other, even if we don't always agree about everything.

By everyone talking and working together, we can all help to make Shropshire a great place for children to grow up in.

It's important that if you don't think we're safe that you escalate your concerns.

These are the numbers to phone if you're worried.

Thank you to the children and young people in Shropshire whose voices you can hear in this video.