

Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board

Briefing paper: Practitioner messages from the 'T' SCR

'Professional curiosity' and 'respectful uncertainty' should be extended to professionals caring for children as well as to families. Although it is relatively rare, children do sometimes suffer harm in care settings such as foster care, nurseries and child minding, and the signs should not be dismissed because of the professional role of the adults involved. Supervisors have an important role in helping practitioners think about the range of causes for things they notice and are concerned about.

Child protection referrals should always be made to the local authority in the area where the child is placed using the appropriate LSCB referral form. This is in addition to notifying the allocated social worker for the looked after child.

The threshold for initiating s.47 enquiries is 'reasonable cause to suspect significant harm'. A potential referrer should not pursue their own investigations before referring, they should refer their 'reasonable suspicion', and contribute to planning and undertaking the s.47 enquires, which will be lead by children's social care.

The Warwickshire LADO service is now based in the MASH, and concerns about adults in a position of trust should be addressed directly to the LADO by using the [POT MARE](#) , and emailing to lado@warwickshire.gcsx.gov.uk. You can also contact the LADO for advice about a possible position of trust concern.

'Connected people' as the term is used in the Care Regulations, are people connected to the child, and sometimes they may not be connected to their parents, or may not be liked by their parents. It is important to consider what individuals could offer to the child in terms of secure attachment, stability and maintaining important family and community links.