

How will my information be used?

Your information will only be used to decide whether:

- You or someone else is being harmed or may be harmed in the future
- You or your family would benefit from help and support
- A crime has been committed or could be committed in the future.

Your information will be held in a safe place and will not be shared with other people unless they have a legal right to see it.

Can I see what is written about me?

Yes. The Data Protection Act 1998 lets you ask for a copy of the information held about you. If you would like to request this contact The Children's Helpdesk on 01452 426565 or

childrenshelpdesk@gloucestershire.gov.uk

What happens after the safeguarding concern?

If your child or young person is thought to have been harmed or could be harmed in the future, we will pass the information to one of our children's social care assessment teams and a social worker will contact you.

Information will also be given to the police if it is necessary to help stop or solve a crime.

If your child or young person is thought not to have been harmed but we think they or you would benefit from extra help, then information will be passed onto the most appropriate service so that you and your family get the support you need, if your consent is given.

Gloucestershire County Council Children's Services will also write to you and where appropriate the child or young person, explaining the outcome of the safeguarding concern.

Remember

If you are concerned about a child or young person and want to speak to someone, contact the Children's Helpdesk on 01452 426565 and give as much information as you can.

For early help and advice on a range of child and family issues contact the Family Information Service

0800 5420202

www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org

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Gloucestershire Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub

MASH



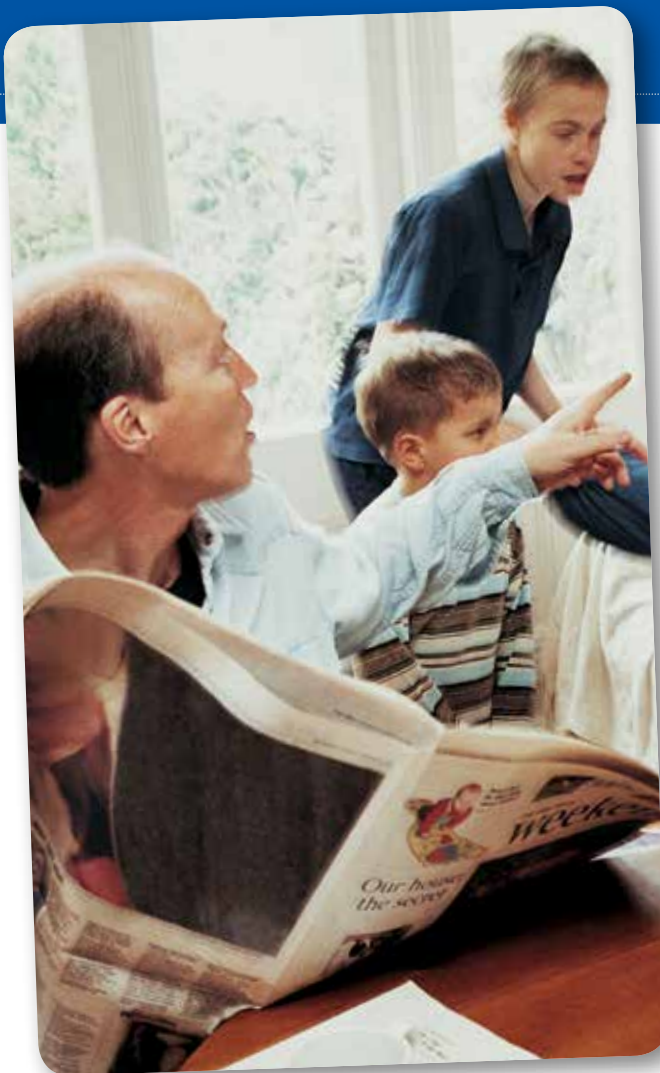
Information for
parents and carers

Working with



What is the MASH?

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is a partnership between Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Constabulary, Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS), Gloucestershire Schools and Gloucestershire Health Services working together to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.



What does the MASH do?

When a professional, family member or member of the public is concerned about a child or young person's welfare or safety, this information will come to the MASH so it can be looked at. This is called reporting a safeguarding concern.

Will I be told that there is a safeguarding concern about my child?

Yes. Usually you will be told at the time the concern is raised. If the safeguarding concern has been made by a professional, for example a health visitor or a teacher, they should tell you what their concerns are and may ask your permission to contact us.



Can information be shared without my permission?

Yes. Information may be shared without your permission if:

- Someone is being harmed or may be harmed in the future
- The information may help to stop or solve a crime.

What happens when a safeguarding concern is looked at by the MASH?

Professionals in the MASH will share information to decide if:

- The child or young person has been harmed or could be harmed in the future
- The child or young person or you would benefit from support from other people who help children and families.

Where can I get more information?

To find out more about the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) visit www.gscb.org.uk