

**I believe
a child is at
risk of harm.**

**“Who can I tell?
What should I do?”**

More Information

REMEMBER IF A CHILD IS AT RISK OF IMMEDIATE HARM TELL YOUR TEAM LEADER ON THE SPOT.

Otherwise report to your Safe Church Reporting Officer

Reports against volunteers/employees

call Tim Williams at the BUNSW 02 9868 9200

REPORTING SUSPECTED RISK OF HARM (ABUSE)

NSW: Child Protection Help Line 13 21 11

ACT: Care and Protection Services 1300 556 728

Counselling Help National:

Kids Help Line – 1800 55 1800

Lifeline – 13 11 14

Child Abuse Prevention Service (24 hr) – 02 9716 8000

Family Crisis Centre (24 hr) – 02 9622 0522

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**WHEN IT COMES TO CHILD PROTECTION,
YOU ARE NOT ON YOUR OWN.**

NSW & ACT
BAPTIST
CHURCHES



Baptist Union of NSW & ACT member of
the NCCA – Safe Church Training Agreement.



**Responding
to Kids @ Risk**
Quick Reference Guide

2012

Kids @ Risk



Who Can I Tell?

If you reasonably suspect that a child (under 16 years) is at risk of being harmed please tell your Safe Church Reporting Officer (SCRO).

If the child is in your opinion in immediate danger, or where a serious crime has been alleged and the SCRO is not on-site at the time, please tell your team leader.

To protect both the child and any other party involved, please do not tell anyone else at this time.

Disclosure

If someone tells you they have been abused remember:

Listen... and do not add anything.

Reassure... the child that they have done the right thing.

Inform... the child of what needs to happen next.

Ensure that the child is not in immediate danger.

Let them know "Abuse is a terrible thing"

"You are not alone"

DON'T start an investigation.

You don't have to prove what has been disclosed.

DON'T ask leading questions.

Limit questioning to, "Tell me what happened"

and "What happened next?"

DON'T promise that the abuse will stop.

You cannot guarantee this.

DON'T tell anyone who does not need to know.

Reporting

Reporting to NSW Child Protection Help-line is an important step in child protection in NSW. As part of our accountable and transparent process, please follow the following steps.

When to Report?

Report to your Safe Church Reporting Officer:

1. Disclosure: When a child or young person tells you that they are experiencing abuse.
2. Suspected risk of significant harm: When you reasonably suspect that a child is at risk of significant harm (no disclosure), i.e. another child has told you about their friend or you have identified several indicators of abuse in the child.

Who Reports?

The SCRO who is a mandatory reporter to the Child Protection Helpline. This is unless the child is in imminent danger by returning home. Then a Team Leader should phone the local police station.

How to Report?

1. Report to your SCRO or team leader.
2. Fill in reporting form and SCRO completes online Mandatory Reporter Guide (MRG)
3. The SCRO takes appropriate action.
NB: Where a crime is alleged, contact the local police.

Special Case

When an allegation of abuse is made against any employee or leader in your church contact the Baptist Union 02 9868 9200.

Remember:

You don't have to prove that a child is being abused, only report your suspicions of risk of significant harm.