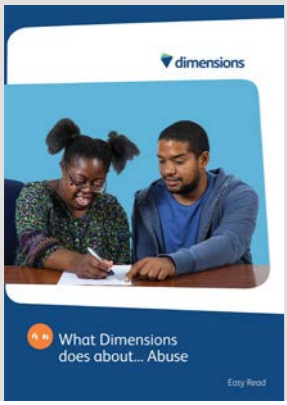




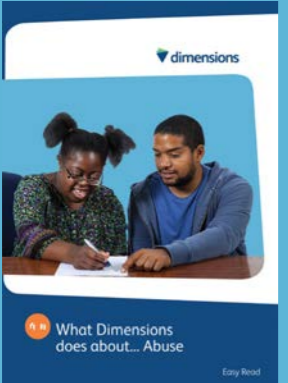
What Dimensions does about... Abuse



About this booklet



The **What Dimensions does about...** booklets talk about the rules that the staff at Dimensions should be following.



This booklets talks about **Abuse** in simple words and pictures.



If staff are not doing things as we describe in these booklets you can tell a support worker or a manager or you can make a complaint.



If you would like to find out how to make a complaint, please ask for the Making a Complaint or Speaking Out booklet.



Thinking about Abuse



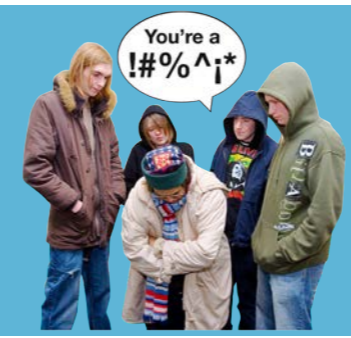
Abuse can be lots of different things. Abuse is when someone hurts you or treats you badly. Abuse is always wrong and should not happen.



Abuse is when someone hurts you. This could be hitting, kicking, biting.



Abuse is when someone touches your body or your private parts in ways you do not like or want. This includes kissing you, making you touch them, having sex with you when you do not want them to.



Abuse is when people talk to you in nasty ways. This could be teasing, threatening, swearing, ignoring you, shouting, putting you down or treating you like a child.



Abuse is when people take or control your money or things which belong to you.



Thinking about Abuse



Abuse is when people who are supposed to help you do not look after you properly. This could be not giving you enough food, not keeping you warm and safe, not giving you medication or taking you to the doctors if you are ill.



Abuse is when people treat you badly because of the colour of your skin, your religion, your disability or because you are gay.



Abuse is when staff put their needs first when thinking about your support.



The person who abuses you could be someone you know or they could be a stranger.



Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time.



If these things happen to your or your friends, you should tell someone you trust.

You could tell...



A member of staff



Someone in your family



An advocate, a friend or neighbour



A nurse, doctor or social worker



The police

What happens when you say you have been abused



First, we will make sure that you are safe.



Next, we will start to find out what happened. We will talk to the safeguarding team. The safeguarding team is a group of people that find out about abuse and make sure that everyone is safe.



The safeguarding team might need to find out some more information



A plan will be made to keep you safe.



A lot of abuse is against the law. You will be told if the person that has abused you has broken the law.

What happens when you say you have been abused



If the person that has abused you has broken the law, you should call the police. Staff can call the police for you.



If the person that abused you is a member of staff, then they will probably stop coming to work until we can find out what happened.



We will always make sure that you are safe and think about your feelings while we are finding out what happened.



We also keep records if someone thinks that abuse might be happening. We write down things that people say or if people are acting strangely. We will only do this if we think someone might be in danger.



If we find out that a member of staff has abused you, we will sack them.

What happens when you say you have been abused



If we sack someone because they have abused someone, we must tell the government who will make sure that other people are safe from that person.



It is the manager's job to make sure that team members are trained and know what to do if someone has been abused.



Julies Story



Julie thought that a member of staff was stealing her money.



Julie spoke to the manager.



The manager told the police.



The manager called the safeguarding team..



Paula from the safeguarding team asked Julie some more questions and made sure that she was safe.



Julies Story



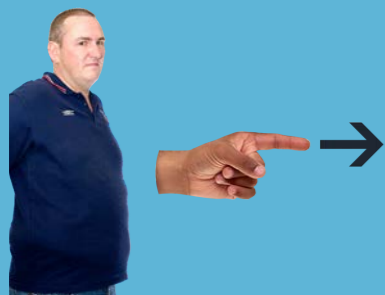
The manager told the member of staff not to come to work again while we were finding what happened.



The manager filled in a form to say what happened.



Paula from the safeguarding team found out that the member of staff had been stealing from Julie.



The member of staff was sacked.



This is a guide to the Dimensions policy on safeguarding. Please contact a member of staff if you would like to see the complete document.
Dimensions Easy to Understand Information.
October 2016



Proving life can get better

Dimensions provides evidence-based outcomes-focused support for people with learning disabilities, autism and complex needs. We help people to be actively engaged in their communities.



Find out more about Safeguarding

Website: www.dimensions-uk.org
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