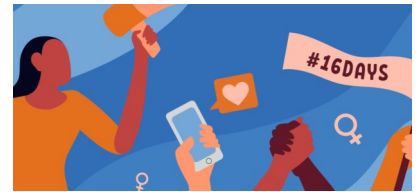


STOP SAFEGUARDING THEME OVERVIEW PACK



Safeguarding children who are victims of Domestic Abuse

The IOW Domestic Abuse Partnership Board and IOW Safeguarding Children Partnership are supporting multi-agency working to recognise and respond to domestic abuse. The ‘Safeguarding children who are victims of Domestic Abuse’ safeguarding practice week will run alongside the international campaign ‘16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence’. The local initiative aims to highlight the importance of safeguarding children who are impacted by domestic abuse.



Domestic abuse is: "Any incident of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality"

Children are also victims of domestic abuse. How it affects them:

- Children can be directly involved, trying to stop the violence.
- Children can also suffer from one parent controlling the other, like not being allowed to visit grandparents or join activities.
- They might hear the abuse from another room.
- They may see injuries after the abuse.



Living in a home with domestic abuse can seriously harm a child’s mental health and behaviour. These effects can last into adulthood. About 1 in 7 children will experience this at some point in their lives.



At least 10 people die every week in the UK because of violence related to domestic abuse.¹ This is likely to be an underestimate and includes child deaths, domestic homicides and suicides related to partner abuse.

One in five children live with an adult perpetrating domestic abuse.²



In 2023 it was estimated that 6,020 people on the Isle of Wight over the age of 16 experienced domestic abuse in the last year.

NEW - DOMESTIC ABUSE REFERRAL PATHWAY

The new **Domestic Abuse Referral Pathway** provides clear steps for professionals to take when supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse.



¹ NSPCC: Child abuse and neglect in the UK today, 2019

² Monkton-Smith, Szymanska and Haile 2017 eprints.glos.ac.uk/4553/

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

DOMESTIC ABUSE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

>> [An Introduction to the Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children and Young People](#)

Provides an introduction to the impact that domestic abuse can have on children and young people and will explore some of the physical and emotional effects.



>> [Responding Well to Disclosures of Domestic Abuse](#)

This course will help professionals deal with a domestic abuse disclosure sensitively and effectively.



>> [Dragonfly Champion FREE Domestic Abuse Awareness Workshop](#)

The Dragonfly Project from Paragon develops community-based support for people affected by domestic abuse. Dragonfly champions are trained to provide a listening ear and a link to domestic abuse support agencies so that isolated people can access help.



****[NEW—HIPS SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AS VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE](#)****

This resource offers easy-to-understand and practical advice for professionals who work with adults and children. It's designed to help them handle situations where domestic violence and abuse are suspected or known.

[NATIONAL CHILD SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE REVIEW PANEL CONSIDERING MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING AND DOMESTIC ABUSE](#)

This paper sets out key findings from a thematic analysis of rapid reviews and local child safeguarding practice reviews where domestic abuse featured. It summarises the most common themes that emerged in relation to multi-agency safeguarding for children who are victims of domestic abuse and includes examples of practice and recommendations.

DOMESTIC ABUSE (DA) INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- [IOW Council - Domestic abuse information for professionals](#): Including DA Strategy, Controlling and Coercive Behaviour Toolkit link, reporting domestic abuse, independent sexual violence advice, DA posters, modern slavery and FGM.
- [Paragon - the IOW's domestic abuse and sexual crime service provider](#): Local contacts, DA referral forms, support and outreach services.
- [IOWSCP - DA information, resources, links to organisations and Domestic Abuse Referral Pathway](#)
- [IOWSCP - Information on domestic abuse for parents, how DA affects children and young people and links to organisations that can provide help and support.](#)