

# Abuse

A form of maltreatment of a child.

Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by **inflicting harm**, or by **failing to act to prevent harm**.

Children may be abused in a **family** or in an **institutional or community setting** by those known to them or, more rarely, by others (e.g. via the internet).

They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another **child or children**  
(WT 2018)