

London Borough of Bexley

News Release

For Immediate Release

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BEXLEY GETS BEHIND CHILD ABUSE CAMPAIGN

Bexley is backing a Department of Education (DfE) campaign designed to encourage members of the public to report suspected child abuse and neglect.

'Together, we can tackle child abuse' was launched this week and Bexley residents will soon start to see posters and hear radio adverts on how they can play a part in protecting children and young people.

Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Cllr Philip Read said; "Children have a right to be safe. DfE research shows us that people may be afraid to report their suspicions because they are worried they are wrong and that their call will set off a series of events that could ruin a life.

"A call to Children's Services about a child or young person who you are worried about will always be taken seriously. Information would be gathered and considered from a number of different sources and a report from a concerned resident would be part of a much bigger picture. If you feels that something isn't right, make a referral to the Council. Our experts will provide a professional response and will consider the information you share very carefully as they decide on next best steps."

To report concerns about the safety of a child of young person call 020 8303 7777 and ask for Children's Social Care. In an emergency always call 999.

ENDS

**Please contact: Jane Parson on 020 3045 4868
communications@bexley.gov.uk**

