

Wath Academy Safeguarding Bulletin



Parent Bulletin

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ABUSE AWARENESS



3RD - 9TH FEBRUARY 2025
#ITSNOTOK

SEXUAL VIOLENCE is any kind of sexual activity or act (including online) that was unwanted or involved one or more of the following;

- Pressure
- Manipulation
- Bullying
- Intimidation
- Threats
- Deception
- Force

In other words, any kind of sexual activity or act that took place without consent.

There are lots of different types of sexual violence, including child sexual abuse, rape and sexual assault.

WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF SEXUAL ABUSE?

Sexual abuse is defined as abuse that involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, and regardless of whether the child is aware of what is happening.

WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

Sexual violence is any sexual activity that happened without consent.

SIGNS AND INDICATORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- Avoiding being alone with, or frightened of people or a person they know.
- Self-harm.
- Changes in their mood, feeling irritable and angry, or anything out of the ordinary.
- Changes in eating habits or developing an eating problem.
- Alcohol or drug misuse.
- Language or sexualised behaviour you would not expect them to know.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE FACTS

Sexual Violence can occur between two children of any age and sex. Through a group of children sexually assaulting a single child or a group of children. Sexual Violence can take the form of rape, assault by penetration, or sexual assault.

CONSENT AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Consent means agreeing to something by **choice** and having both the **freedom** and **capacity** to make that choice.

It is NOT consent if:

- Someone was asleep, unconscious, drunk, drugged or on drugs.
- Someone was pressured, manipulated, tricked or scared into saying yes.
- Someone was too young or vulnerable to have the freedom and capacity to make that choice.

Consent can be withdrawn at any time, including during a sexual act. Just because someone consented to something before doesn't mean they consented to it happening again.