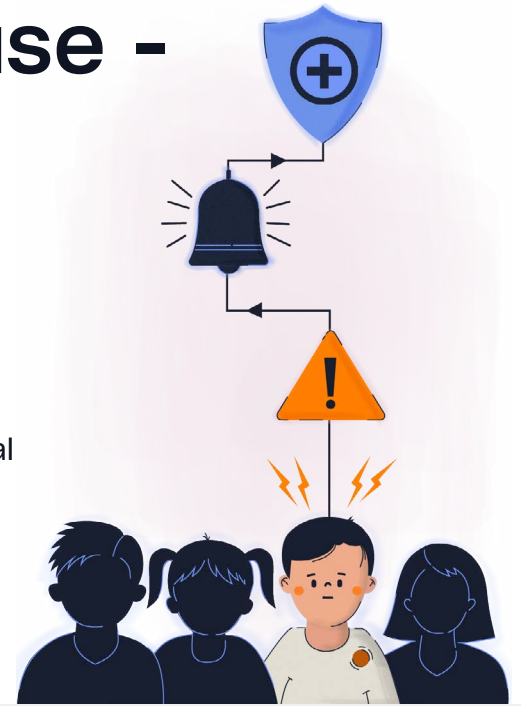












Recognising child abuse - Spotting signs

There are many reasons why children do not report abuse. These could include:

- Believing it is their fault
- Being afraid of the consequences
- The abuser has convinced them the behaviour is normal
- Shame or guilt
- A feeling of loyalty to the abuser
- Worrying that speaking out could damage their sporting opportunities



Common signs and behaviours to look out for

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Spending an inappropriate amount of time with an adult who is not a family member |  Suddenly turning up with new expensive items, such as the latest phone or clothes |
|  Using inappropriate language for their age |  Being secretive |
|  Going missing |  Acting distant and not engaging in the sport |
|  Always wearing clothes that cover their body, even in hot weather |  Having a fear of certain people or places |
|  Behaving differently to the group in changing room situations | |
|  Displaying sexually inappropriate language | |

It is vital that adults in sports clubs are able to spot the signs that something could be wrong.

