

Further support

If you have particular needs, such as support with literacy, language or accessibility, we will endeavour to meet these as much as possible.

As part of the programme, your partner/ex-partner and children/stepchildren will have a family support system available to them. A designated NSPCC worker will be allocated to undertake this work.

For further information, please contact the NSPCC at the address below:



When you're worried about a child, talk to us.

Whatever your concern, the NSPCC offers advice and support. You don't have to say who you are. You could help us to protect a child.

Call **0808 800 5000** or email help@nspcc.org.uk

If you are not happy with the service please contact us.
The NSPCC is a charity and donations are welcome.

Caring dads: safer children



Information for fathers

Caring dads: safer children is a group programme for men who are experiencing difficulties in their families because of their abusive or violent behaviour, and want to improve relationships with their children/stepchildren, partners or ex-partners.

What happens at Caring dads: safer children?

The group will be run by two or three staff (male and female) that are experienced in working with fathers who have been abusive to their current or past partners and/or their children or stepchildren.

The programme runs for 17 weeks and each weekly session lasts for two hours. It is very important that you attend all of the sessions.

Over the course of the programme, you will have the opportunity to:

- consider how you were parented as a child, and how this has influenced the parenting you provide to your own children/stepchildren
- gain an understanding of what children need from their fathers to improve and strengthen the relationship
- consider the impact of emotionally abusive, controlling and physically abusive behaviour towards women and children, and to change that behaviour
- develop an action plan to continue improving your relationships and maintain a family environment free from abuse
- evaluate the programme by completing questionnaires at the beginning and end of the 17 weeks.

The group setting will also allow you to work through the programme with other men in a similar position to you, within a discreet and supportive environment.

Eligibility criteria

Before you start Caring dads: safer children, you will be invited to the NSPCC for an assessment interview to ensure that the programme is suitable for you. It will provide you with an opportunity to ask any questions about the programme and what it involves. The person who referred you to the NSPCC may also be invited to this meeting.

You must meet the following criteria to be considered for Caring dads: safer children:

1. The service is only for men with direct, or indirect, contact with a child or children.
2. The programme is not suitable for men who have perpetrated (or are at risk of perpetrating) sexual abuse or sexual violence.
3. To take part in the programme, you need to have a basic level of acknowledgement of your past or current abusive behaviour.
4. To ensure the safety of women and children who have been affected by your behaviour, we will only accept the referral if you provide contact details for your current or past partners.
5. If you have particular health issues or other problems, eg drug/alcohol dependency, you will still be considered for the programme. We will make a decision about this following the assessment interview.
6. A referral can be accepted if you are involved in family court proceedings at any stage. Please note that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed if the NSPCC is directed by court to share information about your attendance.
7. A referral can be accepted if you are involved with other agencies while you are engaged with the NSPCC. Information will be shared between us and the other agencies you are involved with.
8. If you have volunteered to take part in the programme, other appropriate statutory agencies will be notified about your attendance. The agencies contacted will be determined at your assessment interview.