LADO

A Guide to Managing Allegations against Adults
Working/Volunteering with Children and Young People



'LADO' stands for the 'Local Authority Designated Officer'. If you have told someone you trust that you have been harmed in some way by a professional person, the LADO will look into what has happened.

They will think about how you have been affected and work with other people to ensure that you are safe. They will also ensure no one else is harmed by that person's behaviour.

The LADO will make sure that everyone involved, including you and your family can give their views about what has happened and what will happen next.

www.rotherham.gov.uk



DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

We know it may be a very stressful time, so if there is anything you are not sure about, please write some questions here so you don't forget them.

You can also write down the person you have chosen to support you and their contact details.

WHAT IS A PROFESSIONAL?

A professional is a person who is paid or volunteers to work with children. This includes:

- teachers
- social workers
- foster carers
- residential workers
- religious organisation workers
- sports coaches

WHY HAVE I BEEN GIVEN THIS LEAFLET?

You have been given this leaflet because you have told someone that you have been harmed by a professional or adult that cares for you. Or someone thinks you might have been harmed and is concerned for you.

This leaflet is for information only so that you know what's happening and have a space to make notes.



WHAT WILL THE LADO DO?

The LADO will talk to other people who may have important information. This is so they can get a clear picture of what has happened.

What you share with us is very important and we will take this seriously.

You can decide who will support you through this process. You will also be able to share your views on what you think should happen and we will keep you up to date.

You can speak to anyone who you feel you can trust about what has happened. Although you may feel worried, the people around you are there to protect and look after you.

Sometimes a meeting might take place to talk about the situation, and to make plans so that you and other children and young people are kept and feel safe.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

We will let you know about any decisions that involve you.

The LADO will then work with professionals to decide:

- whether the professional is a safe person to continue to work with children
- whether the professional might need some help, support or more training

The person may have done something illegal and they may be reported to the Police.





