



“He didn’t want to show me his wounds but he was happy to have the school nurse assess and dress them as long as I told her not to ask any questions.”

Next steps

If you have any concerns about a young person's immediate safety, this is an absolute priority and should be treated as an urgent safeguarding issue in line with your policies. If you think a young person is at risk, they should not be left alone.

All discussions should be recorded and shared with your safeguarding officer who will keep these details on file and can provide support and direction on appropriate next steps. These might include:

- **Informing adults who need to know in order to keep the young person safe. This will usually include parents or carers.**
- **Visiting the GP to seek further support and guidance.**
- **Providing access to a school counsellor.**
- **Setting up regular meetings with a trusted adult such as a form tutor who can provide practical support and guidance.**

It is important that all wounds are appropriately dressed and cared for as infection is common. Provide the young person with information about wound care or access to a trained first aider or medical professional who can assess and dress any wounds.