

**Appendix E: Situations when it would not be appropriate to inform parents, carers, or family members prior to a referral**



Situations when it would not be appropriate include where:

- discussion would put a child at risk of significant harm.
- there is evidence to suggest that involving the parents or caregivers would impede the police investigation and, or Children and Families Services enquiry.
- there are concerns that a child may have been conceived as a result of an incestuous relationship or intra-familial sexual abuse.
- complex (multiple or organised) abuse is suspected.
- fabricated or induced illness is suspected.
- to contact parents or caregivers would place you or others at risk.
- discussion would place one parent at risk of harm, for example in cases of domestic abuse.
- it is not possible to contact parents or caregivers without causing undue delay in making the referral.
- where there are concerns about a possible forced marriage or honour-based violence.
- an allegation is made that a child under 13 has been involved in penetrative sex or other intimate sexual activity.