



The Lisa Maria  
Foundation

# Be prepared for a disclosure

Remember how hard it is for a child to open up and respect that they have chosen you to share with.

Speak to the child in a private, child centred space and do not block the exit, so the child feels safe to leave.

Listen and do not rush the child. Slow things down if needed.

Straight after, write down all details and refer to your safeguarding leader for guidance.

Create an empathic presence, where the child feels heard & safe.

Know your organisation's procedures so you are confident what to do and who to refer to.

Probe gently and clarify what was said by summarising. Clarify ambiguous words by asking what is meant.

Never promise a child that you will 'keep their secret' but explain limits of confidentiality in a manner that is child friendly.

