

# WHAT CAN HAPPEN WHEN A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON SPEAKS OUT ABOUT ABUSE



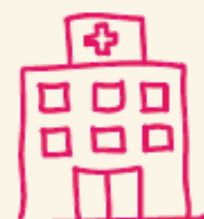
Typical case - Robin, aged 8

Robin tells her teacher she is being hurt at home.



Teacher speaks to designated child protection lead, who may also speak to Robin.

Robin may have a medical examination often at a local hospital, and speak to a nurse, a doctor and the social worker.



Robin speaks to a social worker and police officer.



If referred to Children's Reporter, Robin will need to speak to another social worker and may need to speak to Children's Panel.

When a child's case is heard within the Scottish system, they may have to share their story with many people.



Robin may speak to the Procurator Fiscal (PF) about giving evidence in court to decide on any special measures.

Robin may receive support from a trained Witness Support volunteer while giving evidence. She will usually meet them on the day. There will be a new volunteer with Robin each day if her evidence is heard over more than one day.



Robin may see a therapeutic support worker.



Robin will be offered a court visit and will speak to the Witness Support Service.



Robin may give evidence in court or via a video-link/behind a screen, and speaks to the PF, defence agent and other lawyers.



often once case is concluded Robin will not be referred for abuse and trauma recovery support.

If Robin's care is being considered she could speak to a Safeguarder; independent bar reporter; curator; psychologist and translator.

IN ROBIN'S CASE SHE SPOKE TO OVER 14 DIFFERENT PEOPLE