

Worksheet 13

Disclosure Response Card

This card is designed to be cut out and laminated. Keep it somewhere accessible – a purse, a drawer in the kitchen, on the fridge. If a child tells you something, this card will help you respond in the right way.



IF A CHILD TELLS YOU SOMETHING – WHAT TO DO



DO

- ✓ Stay calm. Take a breath.
- ✓ Listen without interrupting.
- ✓ Say: “I believe you. Thank you for telling me.”
- ✓ Say: “This is not your fault. You have done the right thing.”
- ✓ Tell them: “I need to talk to someone who can help keep you safe.”



DO NOT

- ✗ Do NOT ask: “Did X do Y to you?” (leading questions)
- ✗ Do NOT promise: “I won’t tell anyone.”
- ✗ Do NOT show extreme distress in front of the child.
- ✗ Do NOT confront the person the child has named.



THEN: write down exactly what the child said, word for word.
Note the date and time. Call your social worker or children’s services immediately.



EMERGENCY:

Relevant jurisdiction number (999/000/112)

Child Protection Services [your local number]