

Keeping children safe in Greater Manchester in 2019/20

Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan

We're here to fight for every childhood. That's why we help children who've been abused to rebuild their lives, we protect those at risk and find the best ways of preventing abuse from happening.

That wouldn't happen without our supporters – people like you – helping us to change young lives. You help us keep more children safe in Greater Manchester and across the UK.

Last year there were **3,792** sexual offences against children under the age of **16** recorded by police in Greater Manchester. **3,672** children were **the subject of a child protection plan** and there were **5,820 children in care** in Greater Manchester.

Here's how we're keeping children safe in Greater Manchester:

Visiting schools



In the average primary school class, **at least two children** have suffered abuse or neglect.

We aim to visit every primary school in the UK every three years. In 2019/20 our volunteers and staff delivered ***Speak out. Stay safe.*** in **318 schools** and spoke to **86,061 children** in Greater Manchester teaching them how to recognise abuse and neglect and empowering them to speak out if they are worried about anything. With your help over the next 3 years we can visit all **974 schools** in Greater Manchester.

In 2019/20, we visited over **7,000 schools** and spoke to **over 1.6 million children** across the UK and Channel Islands.

Giving children a voice



On average, a child somewhere in the UK contacts Childline **every 25 seconds**.

In 2019/20, our Childline volunteers delivered almost **240,000 counselling sessions** to children and young people across the UK on the phone and online. Based on the population of Greater Manchester, we can estimate that our volunteers delivered around **10,800 counselling sessions** to children living in Greater Manchester last year.

Some of them are going through the toughest times of their lives. They face issues such as mental/emotional health, suicidal thoughts and feelings, and family relationships. So it's vital that they have somewhere to turn. Childline (0800 11 11 and www.childline.org.uk) is there for them 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

This wouldn't be possible without our volunteer counsellors across the UK and Channel Islands – including those in Manchester - who give their time to be there.

The Childline website has a wealth of resources to help young people find out more about the issues that are worrying them, and to talk to other young people going through the same experiences via the online message boards.

We also have a Childline website for children under 12 with age appropriate content (www.childline.org.uk/kids).



On average, the NSPCC helpline responded to **180 contacts a day** last year.

Taking action to protect children

In 2019/20, the NSPCC helpline (0808 800 5000) responded to almost **69,000 contacts** from people with concerns about a child's welfare. **2,044 referrals** were made from the helpline to local agencies in Greater Manchester such as the police and children's services.

Our helpline is open 365 days a year. It's a place adults can turn to for advice or to share concerns about a child, anonymously if they wish. Then by reporting those concerns to the relevant service, together we can protect children in abusive situations.

Transforming society online and offline

One in three young people have seen something worrying or nasty online. Everyone can play a part to keep children safe from abuse online and offline. And through our campaigns and work with technology companies and government, we're showing people how.

For example, we are working with O2 to keep children safe online with our O2 and NSPCC online safety helpline (0808 800 5002) which helps adults with advice on privacy settings or parental controls, and Net Aware, our guide to the latest apps, sites and games popular with children. Our Share Aware campaign also guides parents about talking to their children about staying safe on social networks.



1 in 5 children in the UK have suffered abuse.

Our PANTS campaign materials help parents talk to their children about staying safe from abuse. This help can come in many forms, in both offline and online resources.

We support communities so that they are strengthened, resilient, and better able to help safeguard children and young people. We inform national campaigns and deliver these locally, and devise and deliver local safeguarding campaigns to respond to local needs with statutory and voluntary partners, on topics such as youth led bullying campaigns and neglect. In Greater Manchester we led campaigns on Look, Say, Sing, Play, which helps parents have higher quality interaction with their baby.

Up to 1 in 5 mums and 1 in 10 dads experience mental health issues during pregnancy and after birth. Our Fight for a Fair Start campaign (<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/fair-start>) in partnership with Jo Malone London aims to ensure perinatal mental health support is available for every parent who needs it in their local area to give babies and families a fair start.

Supporting the community to change childhoods



Safer Recruitment in Education, our online safeguarding training to help recruit staff and volunteers in schools, academies and colleges, was the most popular training resource last year.

We're empowering people with expert knowledge and confidence so that together, we can keep more children safe. In 2019/20, we delivered five child protection training programmes to organisations in Greater Manchester. People from 19 organisations in Greater Manchester came to one of our National Training Programmes from a variety of areas such as early years, education and health.

Through our resources and guidance, we support coaches and the sports clubs, community groups and educational organisations they work with, helping to keep children in sport and community activities safe.

From providing child protection training courses, to consulting with organisations to help them put essential safeguarding in place – we're sharing what we know so that more people in Greater Manchester and beyond can take action to protect children.

Our NSPCC Learning website (www.nspcc.org.uk/learning) provides professionals with all the information, training, e-learning and resources they need to help protect children and keep them safe.

Face-to-face support for families

Even when families are going through incredibly difficult times – like battling addiction or overcoming mental health problems – with the right help, children can thrive.



There are currently almost 61,000 children identified as needing protection from abuse in the UK.

That's why we offer face-to-face support at our service centres. **We deliver services such as our Letting the Future In service, which gives children essential support to recover from sexual abuse.**

But it's not just about those families who we work with directly. Every time we work with a child or a family, we're learning how to give them the best support, and gathering evidence so we know how best to tackle child abuse in communities like yours across the UK.

Every hour spent giving vital support to a child, or a parent who's going through an unimaginably difficult time, is not only helping to change their life – it's helping us and others to change childhoods across the UK. We're building up knowledge, sharing it and working with other organisations, charities and more.

We have trained and supported partner organisations in Greater Manchester to deliver services we have tried and tested so that more children and families can receive the support they need. This includes our **Baby Steps, Letting the Future In and Harmful Sexual Behaviour** services.

Fighting for every childhood

Every child in Greater Manchester deserves a safe and happy childhood, but we need everyone to play their part. That could mean volunteering your time, supporting our campaigns, looking out for a new parent – or donating vital funds to support our work.

In fact, we rely on supporters for around **90 per cent of our income**. Without them, our work simply wouldn't be possible.

£9

could pay for our **Speak out. Stay safe.** programme to reach **three primary school children** – giving them the knowledge to protect themselves from abuse.

£8

could pay for **two children** to speak to a **Childline counsellor** – whatever their worry.

£25

could pay for a trained practitioner for one hour, supporting parents and families in caring for their children.

**Together we can improve the lives of children in Greater Manchester.
Together we can give every child a safe childhood.**