

To all adults – now we have to be extra attentive to children

The Coronavirus is forcing many children and adults to spend more time at home than they usually do. We know that this puts many children in a particularly exposed position.

All of us adults who live or work in the vicinity of these children therefore need to take on a greater responsibility for being attentive to them.

It could be a neighbour's child, or a friend's or a colleague's child. It could also be conversations between adults or children that you hear in your professional role and that cause you concern.



If you are concerned that a child is being exposed to violence or neglect, or is coming to harm in some other way:

- 1** Make a notification of concern to the social services. If you're unsure how you make one, read about it on your municipality's website. You don't need to **know** what the child is experiencing – it's enough that you **become concerned**.
- 2** Speak to children. Ask them how things are at home. Tell them what they can do if something happens that makes them afraid. Explain to them that it's never a child's fault if adults hurt someone or behave badly.
- 3** Call the police. If a situation appears threatening, or you become urgently worried – call the police on 112.

As an adult you can also phone BRIS (Children's Rights in Society) on 077-150 50 50 if you feel concerned for a child, and Kvinnofridslinjen (the National Women's Helpline) on 020-50 50 50, for information on where you can get support and help.

Remember: children and young people who are at home more often spend more time online, which may make them more vulnerable in other ways. Talk to them about this too, and ask them how things are online.

It is the responsibility of all adults to ensure that children feel safe.



VKV – Västra Götalandsregionens kompetenscentrum om våld i nära relationer



En förening som verkar för att alla ska få leva i hem fria från rädsla och våld.