



Regulation 27 notifications



**SUPPORTED
ACCOMMODATION
REGULATIONS 2023**

PART 6: Notifications and complaints

Notification of a serious event

27. (1) If a child dies, the registered person must without delay notify:

(a) the Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills (CIECSS;

(b) the accommodating authority;

(c) the Secretary of State;

(d) the local authority in whose area the premises used as supported accommodation are

located (if that local authority is not the accommodating authority);

(e) the integrated care board (established under Chapter A3 of Part 2 of the National Health Service Act 2006(19)) for the area in which the premises used as supported accommodation are located;

(f) any relevant person not included in sub-paragraphs (a) to (e).



(2) If there is **a referral of a person working for the supported accommodation** undertaking pursuant to section 35 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006(20), the registered person must without delay notify:

(a) the CIECSS; (b) the accommodating authority; (c) any relevant person not included in subparagraphs (a) and (b).

(3) The registered person must notify the CIECSS and any relevant person without delay if

(a) a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, **sexual exploitation or child criminal exploitation**;

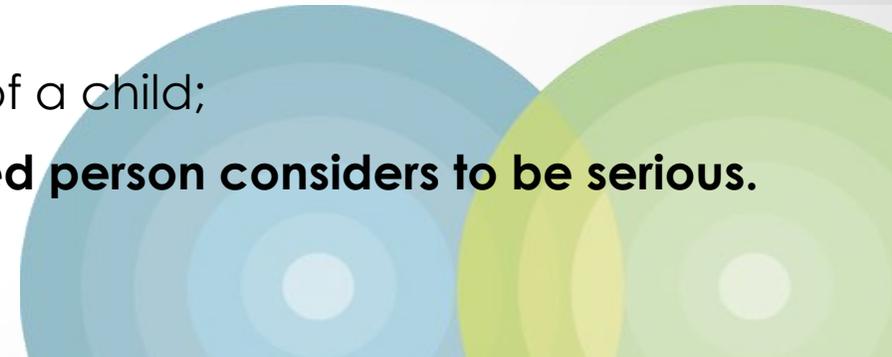
(b) an incident requiring **police involvement** occurs in relation to a child and the registered person **considers that incident to be serious**;

(c) there is **an allegation of abuse** against the supported accommodation undertaking or a person working for it;

(d) a **child protection enquiry** (i) is instigated, or (ii) concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry);

(e) there is an incident involving the **use of a measure of restraint** of a child;

(f) there is **any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious**.



(4) The registered person must ensure that a notification made under this regulation:

(a) includes details of:

(i) the event concerned;

(ii) any other individuals or organisations who or which have been notified;

(iii) any actions taken by the registered person as a result of the matter;

(b) is made or confirmed in writing.





What do we consider to be serious?

What do Ofsted consider serious...?

The Oxford English Dictionary defines 'serious' as: '**significant or worrying because of possible danger or risk**; not slight or negligible'.

The line between what is serious, and what is not, can be blurred and is always a matter of judgement. It depends on many factors, including:

- **age of the child**
- **frequency of the incident**
- **injuries sustained**
- **any additional needs the child has,**
- **the context of the home** and so on.



- a child being the victim or perpetrator of a **serious assault**;
- a **serious illness or accident**;
- a **serious incident of self-harm**, or serious concerns over a young person's **missing behaviour**, particularly where the young person is considered to be at grave risk due to age or vulnerability or where they have been missing for a considerable period of time and their whereabouts is unknown.
- Registered persons should also consider the frequency of incidents and judge whether their **cumulative effect** makes notification appropriate even if in isolation each event would not warrant this.
- An event is serious if it has a **significant and direct adverse impact** on the protection, safeguarding or welfare of children and/or adults, or entails significant damage to property



Serious **illness or accident would include matters such as broken bones, when a child loses consciousness** or situations that require admittance to **hospital for more than 24 hours**.

Ofsted have previously received the highest volume of notifications when:

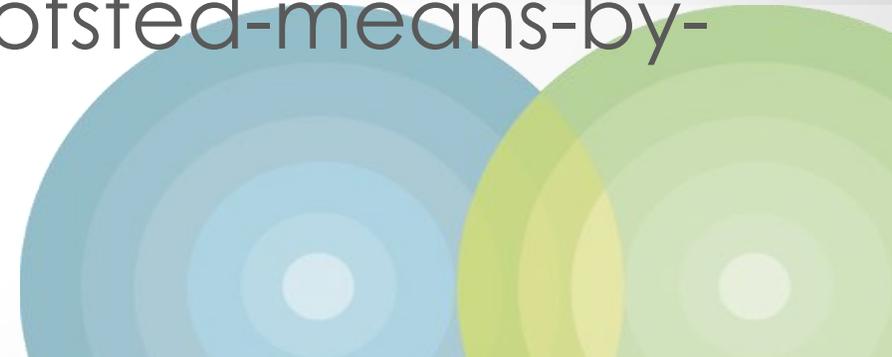
- an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious
- there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious

Police involvement does not mean police have been informed of an incident.

Involvement implies that they are **actively doing something** concerning the incident, for example making an arrest or taking witness statements.

Ofsted do not need to be notified, for example, that police have been informed that a child has gone missing, even if the police are helping staff look for the child.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-ofsted-means-by-a-serious-incident>





What makes for a good account?

Your report needs to be more than a list of times and events.

An inspector needs to know:

- the type of incident and a summary of what happened
- when and where the incident happened
- your contact details and the details for your service and members of staff
- what other organisations have been told
- details of any children involved
- initials and job titles of any staff and people involved
- actions taken by staff and managers at the time and planned prevention measures



Case recording standards

- Use of initials for children and young people
- Objective
- Short and concise
- Views of young people included in “speechmarks”
- Language that cares
- No assumptions
- Factual
- Non-judgemental
- Question & answer
- Relational and child-centred
- Safeguarding remains paramount throughout
-



“Tell us any actions you will take to help prevent this type of incident happening again”





How do you communicate
with Ofsted?



How the inspector prepares...

Inspectors look at the information they already have, including:

- previous inspection reports
- completed questionnaires from children, parents and stakeholders
- the home's statement of purpose and children's guide
- any concerns and complaints received
- reg 27 notifications of serious events
- quality assurance reports received under regulation 32 (including monitoring by the registered person of any incident when a child accommodated in the home goes missing or is at risk of, or subject to, child sexual exploitation)
- any changes to registration, including change of registered service manager or the nominated individual
- any enforcement activity within the last inspection year





KEY LINES OF ENQUIRY