Common Sites for Non-accidental injury

Eyes
Ears
Cheeks
Mouth
Shoulder
Stomach
Chest
Upper Arms
Inner arms
Genitals
Front thighs
Buttocks
Back of thighs

Physical abuse can include:
- Unexplained injuries or burns, particularly if they are recurrent
- Improbable excuses given to explain injuries
- Refusal to discuss injuries
- Untreated injuries
- Fear of parents being contacted
- Arms and legs kept covered – even in hot weather
- Fear of medical help

Emotional abuse can include:
- Over-reaction to mistakes
- Sudden speech disorders
- Neurotic behaviour e.g. rocking, hair-twisting, thumb sucking
- Self - mutilation
- Extremes of passivity or aggression
Sexual abuse can include:

- Vivid details of sexual activity
- Compulsive masturbation
- Sexual drawings
- Sexualised play with explicit acts
- Soreness of genitalia or bottom

Neglect can include:

- Constant hunger
- Poor personal hygiene
- Poor state of clothing
- Frequent lateness or non-attendance at school
- Untreated injuries/medical problems
- **Domestic Violence and abuse is the misuse of power and the exercise of control by one person over another within a close relationship.**

It may involve:

- physical violence
- emotional or psychological abuse
- sexual violence and abuse
- financial control
- Controlling where you go and who you meet.

It can also include:

- Physical injuries and change in behaviours including aggression/anger towards parent or over protective of parent some children may show introversion, withdrawal, flinching, depression

**Your role is to—**

- Document brief notes at the time, if possible
- Write-up using child's own words (keep original notes)
- Record date, time and behaviour
- Use Body Map to record injuries and write a description (do not photograph injuries)
- Consult immediately with the designated person for child protection
- Seek advice develop your knowledge and understanding about the impact of abuse
- Seek support for yourself
- **DON'T DO NOTHING!**