

Learning

CHILDREN EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC ABUSE

Domestic abuse can be defined as an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and/or violent behaviour, including sexual violence, in the majority of cases by a partner or ex-partner but also by a family member or carer.



Children who witness domestic violence may experience the following:

HEARING	shouting, aggression, hitting, screaming
SEEING	watching violence take place, this may include sexual violence
OBSERVING	seeing the aftermath, e.g. blood, bruising, damage to property, ripped clothing, tears
AWARENESS	e.g. tensions in the home - the victim's mood may change around the perpetrator

All of these things can have a harmful impact on a child's physical and emotional wellbeing. This then affects their attachment style, their educational achievements and the way they interact in relationships as they get older.

To find out more information, you can access the Somerset Domestic Abuse page using the QR code.

