

Draft: Things to consider...

The following factors should be considered when deciding what action to take when there has been unacceptable behaviour by a child or young person.

The list is not exhaustive, and does not reflect any order of priority:

- Nature and seriousness of the allegation
- Severity of any injury/threat received by the victim
- Wishes and best interest of the victim
- Previous incidents of a similar nature by the same child or young person
- Does the response need escalating?
- Previous relationship between victim and offender
- Previous behaviour or offending, bullying/peer pressure/duress
- Probability of a repeat incident
- Potential impact of formal police involvement on the child / young person
- Views of carers, Social Worker and other professionals including health & YOT where appropriate
- View of Beat Manager or CiC Police Officer
- Appropriateness of police action / court proceedings
- Future best interest of all parties concerned
- Message sent to other young people / confidence in being able to report crimes and in knowing they may not result in court proceedings
- Availability of alternative courses of action, e.g. restorative approaches with the consent of the victim, referral to the Youth Offending Service
- Level / Value of damage caused
- Requirement for formal investigation, e.g. insurance claim requires a crime reference report
- Potential impact on the young person, the placement or home including staff and residents if the behaviour escalates or is repeated or the young person has previously displayed this behaviour.
- The availability of any diversionary activity

- Reparation ideas (work best where come from young people and linked to offence)
- Could include: Tidying up mess caused, helping to fix damage, sit down meeting, letter of apology, chores etc.

