How to respond to a disclosure of harm

1. Pause and take a breath
2. Give your full attention and listen
3. Let the child speak in their own time and words
4. Reassure the child they did the right thing and are not to blame
5. Tell the child you believe them
6. Be honest about what will happen next
7. Escalate and report the disclosure
8. Look after yourself

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A national Child Safety Reform initiative