

# Mate crime



How to stay safe from people who pretend to be your friend

## Easy Read Factsheet



People should treat you fairly and kindly.

If anyone treats you badly you must tell someone you trust.

Most friends really are friends.



They care about you and treat you fairly.



Some people might pretend to be your friend and treat you badly.

When someone pretends to be your friend but treats you badly this is called Mate Crime.



Mate Crime is against the law and the Police will help you stop it.

Here are some examples of Mate Crime.

John's friend borrows his mobile phone.



He uses up all the credit and never gives him any money back.

Susan's friend gives her a lift into town.



Town is only 3 miles away.

She charges Susan £30 which is far too much money.

Giuseppe gets paid on a Friday.



His friends come to see him on pay day.

They all go to the pub. His friends get Giuseppe to buy all the drinks.

Samira lives on her own in her flat.



Her friends are always coming round.  
They leave the flat messy and eat all of her food. They never bring anything.

Tony's friends always pick on him.



They call him nasty names.  
They tell him he has to do what they say otherwise they won't be his friend.

What to do if any of your friends are treating you badly.



Tell someone you trust. Tell lots of people.



Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board help to protect people from abuse.

- Report abuse by phoning: 0300 200 1005.
- In the evenings, and at night and weekends phone our Emergency Duty Team on: 01483 517898.
- In an emergency phone 999 for the Police.



Always report crime to the Police.



Phone 101 to talk to the Police.  
Phone 999 in an emergency.

The Police will help you stay safe.

Go to the Safety Net Project website for more information.



The Safety Net Project is run by  
The Association For Real Change

The website has more Easy Read information  
as well as videos you can watch.



[www.arcuk.org.uk/safetynet](http://www.arcuk.org.uk/safetynet)

There are eight Easy Read Crime Prevention Factsheets.



- Travelling safely
- Safety when out and about
- Protecting your home
- Visitors to your home
- Mate crime
- Internet and phone bullying
- Identity theft
- Keeping secrets

For more advice visit the Surrey Police website: [www.surrey.police.uk](http://www.surrey.police.uk)



If you are hard of hearing or speech impaired, textphone on 18001 101 (non-emergency) or 18000 (emergency) or text us on 07786 204020 or 999 (register at [www.emergencysms.org.uk](http://www.emergencysms.org.uk)).

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