



Resource Pack

Child Sexual Exploitation

Child Trafficking

Young Runaways



Resource Pack includes

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Introduction

The purpose of the screening tool (**Appendix 1**) is to enable professionals to assess a child's level of risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE) in a quick and consistent manner. The screening tool can be applied to all children (male and female) under the age of 18 years.

Who is this the screening toolkit for?

This Screening toolkit is to be used by anyone who has a concern that a child may be being sexually exploited.

Important points to remember when considering CSE;

- Both girls and boys can be victims of child sexual exploitation and are equally vulnerable.
- The coercer(s) and perpetrator(s) are usually an adult(s), but can be children and young people can also act in a sexually abusive way towards other young people or exert power e.g. group/gang members of either gender.
- Children and young people may exchange or sell sex as a result of constrained choices such as poverty, isolation and historic abuse.
- Although it is rare, parents/carers may be involved in the sexual exploitation of their children..
- Groups of children and multiple perpetrators may be involved (organised abuse).
- No child under 13 years should be assessed as Low Risk if behaviours indicate r risk of CSE.
- Children with additional needs require special consideration up to the age of 21 years.
- No child with a learning disability should be assessed as Low Risk if behaviours indicate involvement in or risk of CSE.
- Be aware: disclosure of information by the child may take time and evident risks may only emerge during ongoing assessment, support and interventions with the child and/or family.

Guidance on the use of the screening tool

Completion of the Screening Tool: (**Appendix 1**) by the professional identifying the concerns should involve liaison with other agencies to ensure that there is multi-agency information sharing and support. The screening tool is intended to assist the exercise of professional judgment. The indicators of child sexual exploitation and vulnerability factors should assist professionals to consider the risk of harm to a child professionals are encouraged to go beyond the child's presenting behavior e.g. missing episodes and to assure themselves what is going on for this children/young person.

If a child presents with **one indicator**, action is required. Early intervention improves the chances of positive outcomes. One indicator is unlikely to require Social Care or specialist services intervention unless it is a Significant Risk category.

Each professional should ensure a record is kept of the outcome of the application of the screening tool and ensure support is secured for the child/young person in accordance with their LSCB procedures.

Assessing or screening for child sexual exploitation should not be seen as a one off event.

Young people can move very quickly between the risk categories, therefore regular assessment should be undertaken using the **Screening Tool (Appendix 1)**. Any escalation of risk should be dealt with in accordance with LSCB procedures. <http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/>

Where risk is assessed as 'medium' or 'significant', then referral/discussion **must** take place with Children's Social Care duty services or the allocated Social Worker where the Child is already known.

The level of intervention required depends on the assessed level of risk. DSCB procedures set out the pathway to be followed dependent on the level of assessed risk. A summary can be found at App 1a.

Disruption and prosecution of perpetrator/s is also of significant importance therefore, any information which comes to light about the victim/s or perpetrator/s (however insignificant this may seem) should be passed on to the police via **Information Report Forms (Appendix 2)**.



Child Sexual Exploitation

Information for Children's Workforce Induction

Definition

Child Sexual Exploitation is a form of child abuse which is complex and can manifest itself in different ways. Essentially it involves children and young people (boys and girls) receiving something – for example accommodation, food, drugs and alcohol, gifts, money or affection – in exchange for sexual activity or having others perform sexual activities on them. It can occur through use of technology without the child's immediate recognition, for example being persuaded to post sexual images on the Internet/mobile phones. In all cases, those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources.

Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationships being characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability. It is abuse against children and young people under 18 – a young person can consent to sex at 16, but they can not consent to sexual abuse/exploitation. They are still children in Law and should be protected.

Extent and nature of child sexual exploitation

- It is difficult to quantify how many children are sexually exploited. Children and young people usually do not recognise that they are being exploited and there are many situations where young people can be enticed into Sexual Exploitation.
- Perpetrators target areas where young people gather including shopping, centres, cafés, takeaways, pubs, bus/train stations, parks, taxi ranks, residential units and schools...
- Perpetrators may use other young people to build initial relationships
- Perpetrators can operate individually as well as part of a group/organised
- Young people can be groomed and sexually exploited by their peers
- Young people may be groomed into 'party' lifestyles where they go to houses/flats with numerous adults and other young people. These parties introduce young people to alcohol and drugs as a means to exploit them
- The majority of sexually exploited children will be hidden from public view. They are more likely to be in private houses/flats.
- Sexual exploitation also takes place over the internet, through mobile phones, online gaming and instant messaging, with social networking sites and mobile technology usually playing a role in the grooming process

Key Risks/Vulnerabilities

The following factors may make a child/young person vulnerable to sexual exploitation. But any child can be vulnerable regardless of background or circumstance. Abusive adults will look out for vulnerability in selecting a child to target.

- Running away/Missing Episodes
- In Care
- Disengaged from Education
- Involved with criminal justice system (victims and offenders)
- Childhood abuse, including sexual abuse
- Family issues including Domestic Violence, Family drug/alcohol misuse, Family mental health problems, Family breakdown/disrupted family life
- Isolated from peers/family/social networks
- Low self esteem
- Lack of awareness of keeping safe, including special needs (e.g. autism, learning difficulties)

Indicators

Young people with the following characteristics are likely to be at high risk of sexual exploitation:

- Going missing for periods of time or regularly returning home late
- Regularly missing school or not taking part in education
- Appearing with unexplained gifts or new possessions
- Associating with other young people involved in exploitation
- Having older boyfriends or girlfriends
- Suffering from sexually transmitted infections
- Uncharacteristic and significant mood swings or changes in emotional well being
- Drug and alcohol misuse
- Displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviour
- Use of mobile phone and internet that causes concern

What should I do?

- Attend Dudley Safeguarding Children Board CSE Training
- Get to know the signs of sexual exploitation
- Share this information with your colleagues
- Think of ways you might be able to help raise awareness of these issues with young people – and what support there could be if a young person shared any concerns.
- Identify opportunities to educate young people and their parents about healthy relationships and about sexual exploitation
- Look beyond the problem behaviours and challenges.
- Ask the questions that help you identify the vulnerabilities and risks.

What if I am worried?

- Child Sexual Exploitation is a child protection issue. Children can not consent to their own abuse. Talk to your safeguarding lead.
- Refer to Dudley Safeguarding Children Board Procedures.
- Depending on the situation: emergency services, social care, youth service, local support agencies, schools.....
- Don't dismiss concerns about these children on the basis that they are 'choosing' this lifestyle. These young people are skilfully manipulated either not to recognise that they are being exploited, or are controlled through threats and violence.
- Think about reporting your concerns even if you don't think you have firm evidence of sexual exploitation. In most cases, there is no firm evidence – it is a collection of risk indicators and vulnerabilities that we recognise.
- Remember that 16 & 17 year olds are children too. They can consent to sex but they can't consent to abuse and exploitation.
- Don't forget parents/carers. Some may contribute to the problems but most parents are equal partners in wanting to secure their child's safety, will be supportive and protective, and are part of the solution

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Induction Checklist CSE

Question	Answer	Date achieved	Further reading	Managers signature on completion
How do I recognise Child Sexual Exploitation				
What is my initial response if I think a child is being sexually exploited?				
Who are the key contacts and agencies, in this area, for me to use when I identify that a child has been sexually exploited?				

Further Information: Trafficking local preference to include all 3 info lists or just relevant one

The United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre [UKHTC]

<http://www.soca.gov.uk/about-soca/about-the-ukhtc>

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)

<http://ceop.police.uk>

Safeguarding Children Who May Have Been Trafficked – Practice Guidance (DFE 2011)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf

ECPAT <http://www.ecpat.org.uk/>

Further Information – Child Sexual Exploitation

CEOP (thinkuknow) <http://ceop.police.uk>

NWG National Working Group <http://www.nationalworkinggroup.org/>

PACE Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation <http://www.paceuk.info/>

Barnardos <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/>

Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation: supplementary guidance

Further Information - Runaways/Missing

The Children’s Society www.childrenssociety.org.uk

DFE <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/safeguardingchildren/a0066653/young-runaways>

CEOP (missing) <http://ceop.police.uk>

What to do if you suspect a child is being sexually exploited

A step-by-step guide for frontline practitioners

1. This step-by-step guide complements, and should be read in conjunction with, the *Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation*¹ statutory guidance published in 2009. It is intended for frontline practitioners in the statutory and voluntary and community sectors (VCS). It outlines the actions they should take, as a minimum, if they suspect that a child they are in contact with is being sexually exploited.

2. Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse which involves children and young people (male and female, of a range of ethnic origins and ages, in some cases as young as 10) receiving something in exchange for sexual activity. Perpetrators of child sexual exploitation are found in all parts of the country and are not restricted to particular ethnic groups.

3. Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) are responsible for ensuring that appropriate local procedures are in place to tackle child sexual exploitation. All frontline practitioners need to be aware of those procedures (including ones for early help) and how they relate to their own areas of responsibility. LSCBs and frontline practitioners should ensure that actions to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people who are sexually exploited focus on the needs of the child.

Step 1: Identifying cases

4. Frontline practitioners from voluntary and statutory sector organisations (including, for example, health and education) should be aware of the key indicators² of children being sexually exploited which can include:

- going missing for periods of time or regularly coming home late;
- regularly missing school or education or not taking part in education;
- appearing with unexplained gifts or new possessions;
- associating with other young people involved in exploitation;
- having older boyfriends or girlfriends;
- suffering from sexually transmitted infections;
- mood swings or changes in emotional wellbeing;
- drug and alcohol misuse; and
- displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviour.

Practitioners should also be aware that many children and young people who are victims of sexual exploitation do not recognise themselves as such.

¹ *Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation* statutory guidance

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DCSF-00689-2009>

² This checklist, which is not intended to be comprehensive, is based on advice to parents and carers published by Barnardos in August 2011: <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/cutthemfree/spotthesigns>.

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5. A significant number of children who are victims of sexual exploitation go missing from home, care and education at some point. Return interviews for young runaways can help in establishing why a young person ran away and the subsequent support that may be required, as well as preventing repeat incidents. The information gathered from return interviews can be used to inform the identification, referral and assessment of any child sexual exploitation cases.

6. In assessing whether a child or young person is a victim of sexual exploitation, or at risk of becoming a victim, careful consideration should be given to the issue of consent. It is important to bear in mind that:

- a child under the age of 13 is not legally capable of consenting to sex (it is statutory rape) or any other type of sexual touching;
- sexual activity with a child under 16 is also an offence;
- it is an offence for a person to have a sexual relationship with a 16 or 17 year old if they hold a position of trust or authority in relation to them;
- where sexual activity with a 16 or 17 year old does not result in an offence being committed, it may still result in harm, or the likelihood of harm being suffered;
- non consensual sex is rape whatever the age of the victim; and
- if the victim is incapacitated through drink or drugs, or the victim or his or her family has been subject to violence or the threat of it, they cannot be considered to have given true consent and therefore offences may have been committed.

Child sexual exploitation is therefore potentially a child protection issue for all children under the age of 18 years and not just those in a specific age group.

Step 2: Referring cases

7. Where child sexual exploitation, or the risk of it, is suspected, frontline practitioners should discuss the case with a manager or the designated member of staff for child protection. If after discussion there remain concerns, local safeguarding procedures should be triggered, including referral to local authority (LA) children's social care and the police, regardless of whether the victim is engaging with services or not.

Step 3: Assessment

8. On receipt of a referral to LA children's social care, a qualified social worker should discuss the case with other services and professionals that they consider relevant and decide on a course of action within one working day of the referral. Where there is a risk to the life of a child or a likelihood of serious immediate harm, an agency with statutory child protection powers must act quickly to secure the immediate safety of the child.

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9. An assessment under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 must be undertaken in all cases where child sexual exploitation, or the likelihood of it, is suspected. The local authority, health and other partners must follow the process set out in the Framework for assessment of children in need and their families³. The assessment is not an end or a process in itself, but the means of informing the planning and delivery of effective services for children. The need to make timely, proportionate assessments to understand a child's needs and circumstances is critical to secure good outcomes for the most vulnerable children and young people. The assessment should contain a conclusion as to whether the child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm.

10. If a section 17 enquiry shows that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, the social worker should hold a strategy discussion involving the police, health and other relevant statutory and VCS organisations to consider whether a section 47 enquiry is required. If the decision is taken to initiate a section 47 enquiry, the social worker should convene a child protection conference.

11. The child or young person's wishes and feelings should be considered when determining what services to provide and before making decisions about action to be taken to protect individual children.

12. Where the child or young person is not deemed to be in need, the social worker must consider onward referral to agencies who provide services for children and young people with additional needs (for example, a VCS or health organisation; see Step 4 below).

Step 4: Supporting victims out of CSE and in recovery

13. Statutory agencies and voluntary sector organisations should reach agreement on the services to be provided to the child or young person and on how they will be co-ordinated. The types of intervention offered should be appropriate to the needs of the child or young person. They should take full account of both the identified risk factors and the child or young person's family and wider circumstances. The latter might, for example, include previous abuse, running away from home or care, involvement in gangs and groups and/or child trafficking. The health services provided might include sexual health services and mental health services or counselling.

³ The Framework for assessment of children in need and their families can be found at: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4003256. A draft revised framework was published for consultation on 12 June 2012. The final version will be published on the Department for Education website following the consultation.

14. Because the effects of child sexual exploitation can last well into adulthood, such support may be needed over a long period of time. For this reason, effective links should be made between children and adult services and between statutory and VCS organisations.

15. Consideration should also be given to supporting the families of victims, including through the work of organisations like the Coalition for the Removal of Pimping.

Step 5: Identifying and prosecuting perpetrators

16. The police and criminal justice agencies lead on the identification and prosecution of perpetrators. All frontline practitioners involved with victims of child sexual exploitation should continually gather, record and share information with the police as soon as practicable, including data on running or missing episodes.

Step 6: Ensuring child victims are supported through related legal proceedings

17. Child victims should be supported throughout the prosecution process and beyond, including through the use of special measures where appropriate⁴. Independent Sexual Violence Advisers⁵ or specialist VCS services, where available, may also have an important role to play.

Further information

18. Further information on child sexual exploitation can be found on the Department for Education website⁶.

⁴ See the Victims and Witnesses section of the Crown Prosecution Service website: www.cps.gov.uk.

⁵ Further information on Independent Sexual Violence Advisers can be found at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/violence-against-women-girls/sexual-violence/isva/>

⁶ Further information on child sexual exploitation can be found at: www.education.gov.uk/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation

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Sexual exploitation screening tool

Name:		Also known as:	
Date of Birth:		Gender:	
Ethnicity:		Disability:	

Address:	
Contact number:	
Lives with:	
Parental Responsibility:	
Relationship to young person:	

Referrer's details

Name:
Agency:
Telephone:
Email:
Address:

Reason for completing screening tool:

Please complete the following form and send a copy to: Vivien.Vasey@dudleyccg.nhs.uk if email is secure Or post to: Vivien Vasey 2nd Floor, Brierley Health & Social Care Centre, Ventura Way, Dudley DY5

Child Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool

Child sexual exploitation is a form of abuse. It involves children being forced or manipulated into sexual activity in exchange for something- money, gifts or accommodation, or less tangible goods such as affection or status. The sexual activity and exchange may be seen as consensual, but is based on an imbalance of power which severely limits victims' options. This Tool has been developed to enable the identification of children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation. Agencies should apply their guidance with regards to consent from young people and parents to share information which does not meet a child protection threshold.

Name of child/young person: _____

Significant Risk Indicators	Current or during the past 6 months:	Prior to 6 months ago:
Periods of absence/missing (day and/or night)		
Relationship of concern with a controlling adult (male or female) or young person, which might involve physical and/or emotional abuse and/or gang activity		
Entering/leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults (not car theft)		
Unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothes or other items		
Frequenting areas known for risky activities		
Groomed/abused via the Internet and mobile technology		
Having unexplained contact with hotels, taxi companies or fast food outlets		

Risk Indicators	Please tick
Whereabouts unclear or unknown – day and/or night	
Absences/exclusion from school or not engaged in school/college/ training/work	
Regular/Multiple contacts from unknown adults/young people	
Physical injuries without plausible explanation	
Sexually transmitted infections/ Pregnancies / termination of pregnancies	
Drugs Misuse	
Alcohol Misuse	
Self-harming/challenging behaviours/suicide attempts/ eating disorders/aggression	
Use of a mobile phone which causes concern – including sexting/multiple phones/sims	
Unsafe use of internet	
Has been sexually assaulted	
Disclosure of sexual/physical assault followed by withdrawal of allegation	
Risky/inappropriate sexual behaviour	
Lack of awareness/understanding of being safe	
Peers involved in sexual exploitation/risky or concerning behaviours	
Living independently and failing to respond to attempts by workers to keep in touch	
A&E attendance because of alcohol/drug misuse	
Being accompanied to appointments by an unknown person that causes concern	
Association with gang members that suggests sexual exploitation is a possibility	

Vulnerability Factors	Please tick
Unsuitable/inappropriate accommodation/sofa surfing/financially unsupported/migrant/refugee	
Isolated from peers/family/social networks	
Learning disabilities/special needs or mental health issues	
History of Local Authority Care	
Involvement in criminal activities and/or at risk of gang involvement	
Family conflict, breakdown, lack of love/security, death, loss, illness of a significant person in child's life	
History of Child Protection involvement in relation to neglect, physical sexual or emotional abuse	
Family history of domestic abuse and/or substance misuse and/or mental health difficulties	

Please access Dudley Safeguarding Children Board website for updates to this pack and safeguarding procedures

<http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/>

The framework includes three categories of risk and is intended to inform appropriate responses in relation to children's safeguarding needs. The presence of one significant risk indicator will necessitate action as described. Please use your professional judgement to reflect upon the indicators you have ticked above and consider the health, welfare and safety of the child in question. (NB: A 'child' is any person under the age of 18, male and female, and older children can be equally as vulnerable)

	Description	Associated actions
	Low risk A child who is at risk of being groomed for sexual exploitation.	Delivered as a single agency or integrated into existing multi-agency plan. Educate to stay safe. Work with children, young people and families to develop an awareness of the risks that can lead to a situation in which they may be exposed to sexual exploitation. Ongoing review of risk required particularly if there are significant changes in circumstances..
	Medium risk A child who is targeted for abuse through exchange of sex for affection, drugs, accommodation and goods etc. The likelihood of coercion and control is significant	A multi-agency approach is likely to be needed. Follow local procedures e.g. CAF or DSCB Safeguarding Procedures for Children at Risk of Sexual Exploitation (Section 34) Work on risk awareness and staying safe should be undertaken with children and young people. A planned programme to raise awareness of sexual exploitation and to provide tools for children and young people to self-protect is required. Ongoing review of risk required particularly if there are significant changes in circumstances..
	Significant risk A child who is entrenched in sexual exploitation, but often does not recognise the nature or self denies the nature of their abuse often in denial, and where coercion/control is implicit.	Follow the DSCB Safeguarding Procedures for Children at Risk of Sexual Exploitation A referral will be needed and a multi-agency strategy meeting should be convened in relation to children and young people assessed as at 'significant risk'. Participants of the meeting should agree a protection plan and action to include long-term intensive direct work with the individual child or young person. Risk should be closely monitored and regularly reassessed as part of the risk reduction process. The Plan to include actions in relation to perpetrators.

Where to refer or discuss your concerns:

If the screening tool indicates that the child/young person is likely to be at medium or high risk of sexual exploitation you should contact Children's Social Care or the Police:

Children's Social Care	Dudley	01384 813200	} Emergency Duty 0300 555 8574 Team (Out of Hours)
	Brierley Hill	01384 813000	
	Halesowen	01384 815902	
Police:	Central Referral Unit	03451135000	Emergency 999 or 101

You can always seek advice from the designated lead person for safeguarding within your organisation or contact the Safeguarding & Review Service on 01384 813061

If the screening tool indicates a low level of risk or vulnerability, then you should consider initiating a Common Assessment – for advice and support contact the Integrated Service Team on 01384 813753

All medium and high risk cases should be referred to the Young People at Risk of Sexual Exploitation (YPSE) Panel alongside any action that is being taken to safeguard the child or young person such as via a child protection investigation.

YPSE PANEL: Street Teams Helen Matthews 01922 621208 07787 525992
helen.matthews@street-teams.org

Where to get more information:

Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) www.thinkuknow.co.uk

PACE – Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation. www.paceuk.info

UKHTC – UK Human Trafficking Centre www.soca.gov.uk/about-soca/about-the-ukhtc

Please access Dudley Safeguarding Children Board website for updates to this pack and safeguarding procedures
<http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/>

Threshold Guidance

(Appendix 1a)

Immediate safeguarding concerns... DSCB procedures to be followed

<http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/information-for-professionals/safeguarding-children-procedures/>

Screening: Low Risk Universal Needs

The more in depth assessment may not be needed at this time. The periodic review of the CSE risks to the child, using the screening tool, is critical and may suggest that a referral to children's social care and more in depth risk assessment is needed
Notify the CSE Administrator for inclusion onto the database

Case management may not be with children's social care but arrangements must be made to ensure appropriate support is provided.

i.e. referral to specialist services to:

- educate stay safe
- risk awareness raising
- child/family support

Keep records of incidents/indicators
Monitor changes in vulnerability/risk
Use police Information Sharing Tool re information on victim and/or perpetrator i.e. names, locations or other useful intelligence

Screening: Medium Risk Additional Needs

If not Section 17 or Section 47 enquiry, then CAF to be completed within 10 working days
Follow Dudley Safeguarding Children Board Procedures for Children at Risk of Sexual Exploitation (Part C – Section 34)

<http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/information-for-professionals/safeguarding-children-procedures/>

Consideration to be given to CSE Strategy Meeting
Intervention with child/children and family/families to address risk awareness and staying safe should be undertaken

A planned programme to raise awareness of CSE and to provide tools for children to self protect is required
Discussion with police regarding missing episodes and referral for return home visits to be completed
Disruption tactics to be considered, Police Information Sharing forms (Appendix 2) to be completed and sent and consideration via civil and criminal proceedings to disrupt perpetrators

Review risk following significant change in circumstances or information shared

Screening: Significant Risk Complex/Significant Needs

Follow DSCB Safeguarding Procedures for Children at Risk of Sexual Exploitation. Children's Social Care to arrange a Strategy Meeting within 5 working days. Consider need for Section 47 assessment and/or Complex Abuse (Organised or Multiple) (Part B Section 12)

<http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/information-for-professionals/safeguarding-children-procedures/>

A joint investigation between police and children's social care will be required

Use Risk Assessment Toolkit to update initial/core assessments as well as any other agency assessment

Use key disruption tactics: gather evidence and use Police Information Sharing tool, Abduction Orders, Harbours Notices.

Ensure all evidence is protected for prosecution

Consider Health, Police and Children's Social Care risk alerts.

Cross reference links to other safeguarding issues e.g. teenage pregnancy, missing, domestic abuse, trafficking strategies

Consult with UK Human Trafficking Centre and/or UK Border Agency where appropriate. Refer any case of human trafficking to the NRM (National Referral Mechanism)

Harm reduction/detox intervention to be offered to child/family as appropriate

Participants of meeting should agree protection plan and action to include long term intensive direct work.

Where possible, engage parents as they may be significant source of information and support

YPSE Panel

Multi-Agency panel supporting assessment and direct work with children identified as: **Medium or Significant risk of sexual exploitation**
Referral to panel can be made by anyone following consultation/agreement with children's social care



**Child Sexual Exploitation
INFORMATION REPORT**

Date/time of report.....

Name					
Post/Job Title					
Agency					
Contact details					
Witnessed incident		Professional		Member of the public	

If the information was supplied by someone other than yourself, on a scale of 1 – 5 how reliable do you think they are?

(1 = always reliable and 5 = unreliable).....

How accurate if the information on a scale of 1 – 5?

(1 = known to be true without doubt to 5 suspected to be false).....

If you are not able to say re above two questions please state “don’t know” rather than guess

If the information is from a 3rd party would they be willing to engage with the police? Yes

No

Does this information involve a licensed service (e.g. newsagents, takeaways, pubs, off licences, taxi’s etc)?

If yes please provide trading name and address of premises

.....

.....

.....

Please provide clear & accurate information: Include as much detail as possible re names/descriptions/nicknames/vehicle details/addresses etc: if providing details of specific incidents please put a date and time these were witnessed.

If the above information refers to a specific victim or perpetrator please ensure their details are entered below:

Perpetrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Victim	<input type="checkbox"/> (please tick)
Name	Alias.....
D.O.B
Address

If you have access to secure email please forward this report to West Midlands Police Intelligence department on fib@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk OR contact the Missing From Home officer in your area. OR hand deliver to Safeguarding and Review Unit, 6 St James Rd, Dudley DY1 3JL



Human Trafficking

Information for Children's Workforce Induction

Definition

Human trafficking is the recruitment, movement and receipt of a person, with deception or coercion, into a situation of exploitation. Trafficking can be cross-border or internally within one country

The Palermo Protocol establishes children as a special case. Any child transported for exploitative reasons is considered to be a trafficking victim, whether or not they have been forced or deceived. This is partly because it is not considered possible for children to give informed consent. Even when a child understands what has happened, they may still appear to submit willingly to what they believe to be the will of their parents

“Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.

Why do people traffic children?

Children are trafficked for many reasons, including sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, labour, benefit fraud and involvement in criminal activity such as pick-pocketing, theft and working in cannabis farms. There are a number of cases of minors being exploited in the sex industry.

How are children recruited and controlled?

- confiscating the child's identity documents;
- threatening to report the child to the authorities;
- violence, or threats of violence, towards the child;
- threats of violence towards members of the child's family;
- keeping the child socially isolated;
- keeping the child locked up;
- telling children that they owe large sums of money and must work to pay this off;
- depriving the child of money; and
- frightening children with threats based on cultural or belief systems, for example, witchcraft or spirit possession.

Safeguarding Children who may have been trafficked

Practice Guidance (DFE 2011)

Includes:

- Introduction
- Definitions
- The problem of child trafficking
- Role of Local Safeguarding Children Boards
- Role of specific agencies and services
- Support services
- Action for services

The United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre [UKHTC] is a multi-agency centre that provides a central point for the development of expertise and cooperation in relation to the trafficking of human beings [THB], working together with other stakeholders from the governmental, non-governmental and inter-governmental sectors in the UK and abroad.

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a procedure that is managed and overseen by the UKHTC. The Government is committed to minimising the impact on child victims and to ensuring that child victims are not unnecessarily asked to recount their experiences to different agencies. The NRM provides a valuable and useful tool for agencies to gather and share information on potential victims and, through work aimed at raising the awareness of the NRM, this strategy will help to ensure that agencies coordinate and share information to ensure the needs of child victims are appropriately assessed and met.

What should I do? How to deal with disclosure

Your attitude and approach towards the child will be pivotal in whether the person feels able to disclose fully, and for you to direct them to the necessary sources for help. Think about your gender, appearance and behaviour and the effect of all three on the distressed and traumatised child. The difference between human trafficking cases and most other criminal investigations is the complex need to remain victim-focused, the safety and welfare of the child is paramount.

The child may:

- be suffering from post-traumatic shock
- be suspicious of your intentions
- be in fear of authority figures
- lie to you initially

The victim will be in fear of their traffickers, use non uniform personnel wherever possible

- Demonstrate an acceptance of what is being disclosed
- Do not judge; Believe; Be supportive
- Listen and give the person time to talk, asking open and not closed questions
- Tell them that it is not their fault; they are not to blame

Explain that you will want to ask a few questions about their experiences, so that you can direct them to the right help and support both in your own organisation and in the community

- Provide information about where to go for help, and refer to relevant agencies when and if requested
- Take detailed notes about the disclosure following agreement from the individual
- If appropriate, and agreed, refer the individual through the National Referral Mechanism.

Induction Checklist Child Trafficking

Question	Answer	Date achieved	Further reading	Managers signature on completion
How do I recognise a child who has been trafficked?				
What is my initial response if I think a child has been trafficked?				
Who are the key contacts and agencies, in this area, for me to use when I identify a child that has been trafficked?				

Further Information: Trafficking

The United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre [UKHTC]

<http://www.soca.gov.uk/about-soca/about-the-ukhtc>

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)

<http://ceop.police.uk>

Safeguarding Children Who May Have Been Trafficked – Practice Guidance (DFE 2011)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf

ECPAT <http://www.ecpat.org.uk/>

Further Information – Child Sexual Exploitation

CEOP (thinkuknow) <http://ceop.police.uk>

NWG National Working Group <http://www.nationalworkinggroup.org/>

PACE Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation <http://www.paceuk.info/>

Barnardos <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/>

Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation: supplementary guidance

Further Information - Runaways/Missing

The Children's Society www.childrenssociety.org.uk

DFE <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/safeguardingchildren/a0066653/young-runaways>

CEOP (missing) <http://ceop.police.uk>

Please access Dudley Safeguarding Children Board website for updates to this pack and safeguarding procedures
<http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/>



Young Runaways Information for Children's Workforce Induction

Definition

The term 'runaway' refers to a child under the age of 16 who has spent one night or more away from their home without parental permission. They may have decided to leave home or have been forced to leave, and they will face a range of potential harm and risks from having to find a place to stay and a way to survive.

A child aged 16 or over can leave home and live independently so is not considered to have run away. But all children under 18 are subject to statutory safeguards as set out in the Children Act 1989. Consequently the definition used by the government in its guidance states: The terms 'young runaway' and 'missing' in this context refer to children and young people up to the age of 18 who have run away from their home or care placement, have been forced to leave, or whose whereabouts is unknown.

Extent and nature of running away

It is important to recognise that a child running away is not necessarily the same as a child going missing. This is because when a child goes missing it could be anything from getting lost while on a day trip to the most extreme cases of child abduction. The key distinction is that a child who has gone missing will have been reported to the police who will record it as a missing incident. This is simply not the case for most runaways.

The Children's Society research shows that a quarter of the 100,000 children who run away each year will be at serious risk of harm while away from home. They found that one in six said they slept rough, one in eight said they resorted to begging or stealing to survive and one in 12 said they were actually hurt or harmed.

Key risks and vulnerability

When children run away from home or care they will be in great danger of being physically or sexually abused or exploited. This is a common finding from all voluntary sector organisations. For example, Barnardos services which work with children at risk of, or involved in sexual exploitation, say that more than half the children they support run away on a regular basis. The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre's recently published thematic assessment emphasised the clear links between children who run away from home and child sexual exploitation. The involvement of children in exploitation takes place over weeks and months and if a child is often running away, potential abusers can easily target them.

Mainstream services like schools and the police are often not sufficiently aware of all of the risks facing children who run away. Instead, if a child runs away regularly there is a tendency for agencies to become complacent about the child's ability to take care of themselves. A recent study conducted jointly by The Children's Society, NSPCC and the University of York found that professionals perceived older children to be more competent and resilient in dealing with maltreatment than younger children. This included being able to escape abusive situations and seek help. **Older children can be equally as vulnerable!**

Disclosing maltreatment was found to be particularly difficult for older children. They are far more reluctant to develop trusting relationships with professionals and are fearful of the consequences. Also, they do not always have sufficient knowledge or information about how to get help. The reality is that most children who run away will not look for help from professional agencies. The Children's Society research found that eight out of 10 do not seek any help and those that do will usually ask friends or relatives. This indicates that running away remains largely hidden from all agencies – the police, children's social care, schools, youth services and health services.

What should I do if I think a Child is Running away?

DO NOT underestimate the risk posed to children that runaway or go missing.

- If a child is missing you should inform the Police as soon as possible.
- If a child tells you that they have, or are thinking about, running away then talk to the child to see why they are running, or thinking about, running away.
- If you suspect that a child is running away but they are not talking to you see if there are any specialist services in the area that could help.

Induction Checklist: Runaways

Question	Answer	Date achieved	Further reading	Managers signature on completion
What are the common push and pull factors for young runaways?				
What are the risks associated with running away?				
How many children and young people runaway per year in your area?				
Who are the key contacts and agencies, in this area, for me to use when I come across a runaway				

Further Information – Human Trafficking

The United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre [UKHTC] <http://www.soca.gov.uk/about-soca/about-the-ukhtc>

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) <http://ceop.police.uk> ECPAT <http://www.ecpat.org.uk/>

Safeguarding Children Who May Have Been Trafficked – Practice Guidance (DFE 2011) https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf

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