

Child Sexual Exploitation

Guidance for Designated Safeguarding Leads



SPEAK OUT
AGAINST CHILD
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999** in an **emergency**





SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

What is Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)?

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of child sexual abuse. It happens where a person or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

Here are some key principles about CSE:

- Sexual exploitation can include sexual, physical and emotional abuse, and, in some cases, neglect
- Children and young people do not make informed choices to enter or remain in sexual exploitation, but do so due to coercion, enticement, manipulation or desperation
- Young people under 16 cannot consent to sexual activity: sexual intercourse with children under the age of 13 is statutory rape
- Sexually exploited children and young people should be treated as victims of abuse, not as offenders
- Many sexually exploited young people have difficulty distinguishing between their own choices about sex and sexuality, and the sexual activities they are coerced into. This potential confusion should be handled with care and sensitivity by professionals
- In some cases young people themselves may exploit other young people

What can schools do to help tackle CSE?

Schools are well placed to teach pupils how to make positive choices and informed decisions in their relationships so that they can protect themselves from sexual exploitation. Positive relationships with school staff will encourage children to disclose any worries about their own safety or the safety of another pupil.

Recognise the signs



By virtue of regular contact with young people, school staff are well placed to notice changes in behaviour and physical signs which may indicate involvement in sexual exploitation.

Familiarise yourself with the warning signs and always consider the risk of sexual exploitation when working with young people.

Pupils with the following vulnerabilities may be more at risk of being sexually exploited:

- Children who have been excluded
- Children recorded as Missing from Education
- Children with Special Educational Needs
- Children in Care of the Local Authority
- Prevalence of undiagnosed mental health problems
- Children frequently missing from home
- Children who have suffered a bereavement



**SPEAK OUT
AGAINST CHILD
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

Recognise the signs

The following signs may indicate or signify if children are being groomed or sexually exploited:

- Poor attendance at school or sudden changes to attendance
- Arrivals and departures from school : unusual or concerning behaviour, particularly pupils receiving lifts from unrelated adults, gang members or other individuals of concern
- Being secretive or withdrawn
- Being hostile or physically aggressive in their relationship with parents/carers and other family members
- Associating/developing relationship of a sexual nature with a significantly older man or woman
- Having money, mobile phones, clothes, jewellery or other items not given by parents/carers
- Changing physical appearance - new clothes, more make-up
- Being defensive about where they have been and what they've been doing
- Having increasing health-related problems
- Becoming disruptive or using abusive language
- Getting involved in petty crime
- Having marks or scars on their body which they try to conceal by refusing to undress or uncover parts of their body
- Having a mobile phone at school, or additional mobile phone
- Expressions of despair (self-harm, overdose, onset of disordered eating, challenging behaviour, aggression, appearing drunk or under the influence of drugs, suicidal tendencies, looking tired or ill, sleeping during the day)
- Use of the internet that causes concern
- Isolated from peers and social networks; not mixing with their usual friends
- Lack of positive relationship with a protective, nurturing adult



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

Understand the Risk Factors

All children are vulnerable to sexual exploitation

Push factors – vulnerabilities or issues that 'push' the young person towards the perpetrator

These include Children in care, those with learning difficulties, those suffering family breakdown / domestic violence / bereavement / drug and alcohol issues at home

Pull factors - grooming techniques used to gain the child's affections or a desire for acceptance

These include receiving gifts, alcohol, drugs. The buzz of risk taking / forbidden behaviour and avoiding rules and boundaries

Remember : children who have been groomed may not recognise what is happening as abuse or dangerous, they may reject offers of help and see themselves as being in a loving relationship.





SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999** in an emergency

Make sure your school has a CSE Policy

All education settings should have a policy which sets out how they will address child sexual exploitation.

The CSE Policy can be a 'stand-alone' policy or can form an appendix to the setting's overall safeguarding policy.

The CSE Policy should contain the following :

- Policy Aims and Objectives
- Definition and overview of CSE
- Procedure for responding to concerns
- Prevention Planning
- Confidentiality
- Parental Involvement
- Monitoring and evaluation

Templates for a CSE Policy can be found on the NSCB website at www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk



Identify key CSE staff within your school

A commitment from **senior management** and **governors** in the school to deal with the issue of child sexual exploitation is needed to ensure it is done in an appropriate and supportive way.

Every education setting should have an appointed **CSE Lead** who may also be the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The role of the CSE Lead will be to :

- provide governance and scrutiny on how the school is dealing with child sexual exploitation
- give all school staff a single point of contact to report or find out more information about child sexual exploitation
- ensure that the appropriate training has been delivered to all staff, students and parents in relation to CSE
- ensure that all students are aware of the role of the CSE Lead and that they make themselves available and approachable to students
- develop good links with other agencies who may be involved in tackling CSE
- be familiar and confident in how to manage any referrals / disclosures and refer any CSE concerns
- Attend all Child Protection conferences, LAC Reviews and multi-agency meetings involving young people from the school who are considered to be at risk or a victim of CSE

You will also need a **school governor** with responsibility for CSE. This may be your safeguarding governor, but they should be aware of their responsibilities for CSE.



**SPEAK OUT
AGAINST CHILD
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

Each **Head of Year** has a crucial role to play in understanding and responding to child sexual exploitation. Regular meetings between the Head of Year, other teaching and pastoral staff and pupils will provide lots of opportunities for changes in behaviour to be noted and concerns about young people reported.

Where a school has an **Inclusion Mentor** (or similar role) they should meet regularly with Child Protection lead officers and / or Designated Safeguarding Leads to share information and concerns about pupils within that school.

School nurses have a vital role in supporting young people and their families as they have direct access to students and are ideally placed to foster a relationship to help young people who may be experiencing CSE. School nursing teams have a role in raising awareness and supporting children at risk of sexual exploitation.

Ensure staff have been trained in CSE

In addition to the key CSE staff above, the CSE Lead will need to ensure that all members of staff are trained in CSE.

The CSE Lead could organise a session for all staff to raise awareness of the risk factors, signs and indicators, useful resources and details of local services. Similar sessions could be organised for parents, perhaps in conjunction with local services.

The NSCB offer training on child sexual exploitation including face to face training and e learning courses, details of which can be found on the website at www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk.



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

Deliver Preventative Education to pupils

Schools, their workforce, volunteers and governors should promote healthy relationships through their whole school ethos including role modelling, guidance and setting expectations.

Ensure guidance leaflets and resources are easily accessible, available, understandable and relevant to all pupils and that they know who to speak to about any concerns.



Primary Schools

Important messages can be delivered to all ages using age/stage appropriate language and materials to consider issues such as friendships, personal safety, keeping safe, appropriate touching, risk taking, bullying, e safety and knowing how to get help when in difficulty.





Secondary Schools

Secondary schools can develop these messages through Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) lessons and Sex and Relationship Education (SRE). A wider range of topics relevant to the age and experiences of young people can also be covered including:

- Respect and responsibilities
- Awareness of unhealthy relationships, sexual exploitation and grooming
- Understanding of dangerous and exploitative situations
- Exploring gender stereotypes and gender roles
- Increasing awareness of risk, assessing risk and the consequences of risk taking including sexual bullying and peer pressure
- Building skills and confidence in developing positive, healthy relationships

On-line Safety

All children and young people are at risk of online sexual exploitation. Schools should ensure that their e-safety procedures are robust and that pupils are taught online safety skills so they know:

- online risks
- how to recognise unsafe online contact
- to be confident to report any concerns about themselves or others to staff in school

Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children's Board (NSCB) has a list of resources available to schools which can be accessed on-line at www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

Partnership Working

Find out about local services for sexually exploited young people, and invite representatives to your school to take part in a lesson or assembly. Many such services will have a ready-prepared set of resources that schools can use and are willing to work alongside school staff to teach lessons or present assemblies and workshops.

Working in partnership with the NSCB and being familiar with the NSCB procedures will help to support the school with any child protection concerns that arise as a result of this area of work.

Working with Parents



Sharing concerns with parents may seem daunting but schools are often the first agency to notice that a pupil may be at risk. School staff can be a source of support for parents who have concerns about their child's behaviour, appearance or friends who are not part of the school community. Schools can listen to parents' concerns and work with them to access appropriate agencies for further help

Consider delivering training sessions to parents to help them understand CSE.



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

What to do if you have concerns about a young person

If you think the young person is at imminent risk of harm, call 999 to report your concern

Staff who have a concern that a child may be at risk or a victim of CSE should **inform the school DSL immediately**.

If the child or young person is considered to be at immediate risk of harm, the DSL should **make an urgent referral** by calling 999 and should also inform the Headteacher.

If there is no immediate risk of harm, the DSL should consider **talking to the child or young person** to discuss the concerns.

S/he should **urgently convene a meeting** with all the relevant staff in the school (Head Teacher, Head of Year, plus any other relevant staff) to collate any information that may be relevant.

The DSL should **complete the CSE Assessment Tool** which can be found on the NSCB Website at www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk.

Where a young person is OPEN to social care and has an allocated social worker, the completed CSE Assessment should be **forwarded to the RISE team**. The social worker should be informed that this referral has been made.

Where a young person is NOT OPEN to social care, the completed CSE Assessment should be completed and **sent to MASH as part of a MASH referral**.

In addition to the above, the school should follow their usual safeguarding procedures.

If you are concerned a child or young person is at risk, do not hesitate to make a child protection referral.

Always include as much information as possible with any referral.



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**

USEFUL CONTACTS

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE

Emergency : 999

Non emergency : 101

REDUCING INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (RISE)

Tel : 01604 888345

E mail : rise@northants.pnn.police.uk

MULTI AGENCY SAFEGUARDING HUB (MASH)

Tel : 0300 126 1000

E mail : MASH@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD
(NSCB)**

Tel : 01604 364036

E mail: nscb@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk



SPEAK OUT AGAINST CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Recognise the signs and speak out. Contact the Child Safeguarding Team on **0300 126 1000** or Northamptonshire Police on **101** or **999 in an emergency**