

The definition has been reviewed by the National Working Group and updated as of the 17th of February 2017:

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual 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.

Introduction

This guidance is intended for the use of Children and Families staff and therefore those working with children vulnerable to being exploited and trafficked. The guidance will provide guidance around assessing risk in a consistent manner and confidence in this process. This guidance should be read in line with the LCSB Child Sexual Exploitation Practice Guidance.

Page	<u>CONTENTS</u>
2	1. Working with young people at risk of CSE
3	2. Boys and young men.
4	3. CSE risk guidance tool, MAST meetings and case planning.
4	4. Information sharing
4	5. Operation conceal
6	6. Trafficking
6	7. Return Interviews
8	8. Over 18s and Leaving Care
9	9. Summary
9	10. Contacts
11	11. CSE Bedfordshire Risk Guidance tool.
14	12. CSE tool good practice guide

Working with young people at risk of CSE.

“...the victims are children however they present themselves. They cannot consent to their own abuse, all the more given that grooming itself removes any real sense of self-determination from these children. There should be no scenarios where children are viewed as young women or as making choices.” (Louise Casey CB, 2015)

It is often particularly hard to engage with young people when they are in denial of their own abuse and resistant to engagement. Remember that they are being groomed/have been groomed and therefore cannot see the risks that we see. They may have a trauma bond to the perpetrator/perpetrators meaning that despite the abuse they ‘keep going back’ and are loyal to the people who are harming them. Also remember that young people are naturally predisposed to risk taking behaviour due to being teenagers and the hormones released by the brain.

Our recordings are important and the use of language is key. A young person reading about them being at risk of CSE may find this unhelpful and may resent the use of the word victim. Make plans and assessments that will be read by the young person appropriate for their reading. Also avoid any recordings which could be used against a young person in court such as ‘they always tell lies’. We have come forward from the more old fashioned use of language around CSE, we know that children cannot consent to their own exploitation (up to age 18) we also know that children cannot be prostitutes as this is exploitation. Terms that are inappropriate and judgemental include terms such as ‘promiscuous’ and ‘lifestyle choices’.

Different ideas of getting young people to engage can be hard. Therefore a resource pack on CSE has been compiled and is available on sharepoint.

http://sharepoint/sites/CYPS/candfguidance/_layouts/15/start.aspx#/SitePages/Home.aspx?FollowSite=1&SiteName=Children%20and%20Families%20Guidance

Boys and young men.

We must not overlook the risks of CSE and trafficking for boys. There are added barriers to disclosing for boys and the risk indicators may not always allude to anything sexual but may appear to be more criminally based, however this does not mean that sexual exploitation is not happening.

There may be the added element of questions around sexuality which could lead to increased vulnerability online.

Research around trafficking and boys (Boys Don’t Cry, Children’s Society) shows that it takes a long time for boys to disclose anything sexual. Victims of trafficking may disclose the criminal elements of exploitation but it could be a very long time before they feel safe enough to disclose the sexual exploitation.

“For young men, there is more sense of shame, their manhood is diminished...”

Boys Don't Cry Improving identification and disclosure of sexual exploitation among boys and young men trafficked to the UK. Executive Summary by Lucy Leon and Phil Raws. Children's Society.

Resources and information around working with boys and young men is available on the BLAST website.

CSE Risk Guidance Tool, MAST Daily Meetings and Case Planning.

Where there are concerns around CSE a risk guidance tool should be completed.

The Bedfordshire risk guidance tool should be informed and contributed to by other agencies and by the family and child where possible.

The risk guidance tool is to be completed in line with case planning and at a minimum of every 12 weeks for low risk, every 8 weeks for medium and every 6 weeks for high risk. This should be done as part of the Core Group, CIN Meeting, RAISE or Placement Planning/LAC review meeting. Where it is felt not appropriate to update within the meeting then there should be additional time at the end of the meeting with relevant professionals to complete this. Any changes in risk, incidents of concern or missing episodes should lead to consideration of the risk guidance tool being updated. **Risk is fluid and therefore the guidance tool must be considered on a regular basis.**

Medium and High risk CSE cases should always be held by Social Care and therefore will be stepped up from Prevention when the risk is agreed as such.

If a CSE case is ready to close then the risk level needs to be reviewed within MAST prior to closure. This allows for MAST to review the current level, update police systems and consider whether or not the child should be discussed in VEMT Tier 1 meetings following closure.

On completion of the tool:

- Use your professional judgement rather than relying on counting the risk indicators and explain why you as the Children & Families worker see the risk as low, medium or high. Add as much detail as possible including names, dates and locations.
- Discuss the outcome with a manager within your team.
- You need to ensure the risk guidance tool is then sent to the MAST nymast@northyorks.gov.uk

- **Ensure the risk level has multi-agency agreement through the assessment being considered at the CSE meeting held in the Multi-agency Screening team.**
- The purpose of the CSE meeting is to share information and agree whether the young person is at risk of CSE, whether CSE case status should be added/removed and determine any other recommendations for the team to consider in managing the risk. You need to be available via conference call for this meeting.

Planning.

When a case is open to Children and Families and has a risk of CSE, the plan should address the risks around Sexual Exploitation. Make sure that the plan specifies the risks of CSE and the current risk level (from the guidance tool and MAST). Plans should be outcome focussed with clear actions related to the risks. Plans need to consider disruption of the CSE and how this can be attempted. If the young person has gone missing then ensure this is addressed within the plan with identified actions in relation to preventing the young person from going missing again.

Young people may resent the term CSE, especially when they are in denial of the abuse, therefore use your wording carefully so that plans and reports can be shared openly with the young person. Address the risk with clarity but be aware of language.

e.g. *Child A is at risk of CSE through risk taking behaviour and agencies are concerned about sexual exploitation.*

Could be worded as:

Child A is vulnerable to being taken advantage of by her peers and older youths. Agencies are worried that although Child A states she feels safe she is at risk of being sexually harmed and groomed by older youths. This is more of a risk when Child A is involved in taking drugs as the people supplying these substances may manipulate Child A

Information sharing:

The police should be invited to all multi-agency meetings for cases with CSE as a current risk. If it is not deemed appropriate then information from the Police should be sought, considered and outcomes of meetings shared without delay. The sharing of information should not however wait until these meetings are convened and it is expected that the police will mutually share information in a timely way.

RAISE meetings are a helpful way of addressing the complexity of risk around CSE. For medium and high risk CSE managers should consider whether or not a RAISE meeting would be appropriate.

As mentioned above it is fundamental that information is shared between Children and Families with the Police. This is the same with all agencies and it is important that the Children and Families Worker ensures that information is shared as appropriate and that all agencies are aware of the risk of CSE.

“CSE is one of those problems where silo working is actively harmful to the protection of children and stopping offenders”. (Reflections on child sexual exploitation. A report by Louise Casey CB March 2015)

Workers need to familiarise themselves with the CSE intelligence form and to use this regularly. It may be that information has been verbally passed on to police but to ensure that it is processed properly the intelligence form should be used as well.

Please remember that the form should not be used where immediate action is required or where a crime is being reported, even if historical, this should be reported by 101 or 999 for urgent action.

The form is on the NYSCB website under resources.

http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/resources?page=resources&DigitalAssets_page=2

Trafficking.

‘A person commits an offence if they intentionally arrange or facilitate the travel of another person with the intent to commit a relevant offence’ (NCA)

Human trafficking is the movement of a person from one place to another into conditions of exploitation, using deception, coercion, the abuse of power or the abuse of someone’s vulnerability. It is possible to be a victim of trafficking even if your consent has been given to being moved. Although human trafficking often involves an international cross-border element, it is also possible to be a victim of human trafficking within your own country.

There are three main elements of human trafficking:

- The movement – recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people
- The control – threat, use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or the giving of payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim
- The purpose – exploitation of a person, which includes prostitution and other sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices, and the removal of organs

Children cannot give consent to being moved; therefore the coercion or deception elements do not have to be present. (National Crime Agency)

The UK Human trafficking centre (UKHTC) plays a central role in the NCA's fight against serious and organised crime.

Children and Families Workers need to remember that being trafficked does not necessarily mean one country to another or even one county to another, it could be from one house to another on the same street. With or without consent, a child travelling somewhere at the arrangement of someone else with the intent of exploitation, means they have been trafficked. If we are aware of this then we must share this with the police.

Be aware that young people who have been trafficked are at high risk of going missing. Safety planning and good communication with the police is essential. Parents/Carers should report a child missing promptly in order to allow the police to act quickly. Internationally trafficked children, if missing for more than one hour, have a minimal chance of being located therefore all agencies need to be vigilant.

If a child is a victim of CSE then they most probably will have been trafficked, if we suspect a child is being trafficked then we should refer the child to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). The NYSCB one minute guide to trafficking also explains this process.

When a child has moved from one country to another and we suspect they may have been trafficked, even if the young person has not made any disclosure, we should consider a referral into the NRM.

The NRM can be completed by a C&F worker or Police Officer amongst other agencies (Barnardos, Home Office etc).

If you are considering a NRM then please consult with Rebecca Mauganai and ensure that the decision to refer to the NRM is considered within MAST CSE meeting.

When the decision has been made to complete the NRM please copy the NRM referral into modernslavery@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

This allows for the police to create a crime in relation to the suspicion of trafficking.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms>

The NRM provides support and access to resources, a 'reflection and recovery' period of 45 days, and a defence against prosecution for crimes committed whilst being trafficked.

The NRM can also be completed for trafficked adults but with their consent.

On completion of the form please provide as much detail as possible.

Consult with Rebecca Mauganai CSE, Missing and Vulnerability Co-ordinator x6459 or your VEMT Champion.

NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice Centre: 0808 800 5000 ctac@nspcc.org.uk

UK Human Trafficking Centre: 0844 778 2406 UKHTC@nca.x.gsi.gov.uk

Return Interviews.

We know that young people experiencing CSE and at risk of CSE or trafficking will often be reported missing. When a return interview is being completed please consider the risks of CSE, ask for names and locations as well as addressing their safety and any issues around drug use or alcohol. Even if the child has only been missing for a brief period of time they could still have experienced harm and the child needs to feel listened to and supported. Ask open questions around relationships and how they know they are safe. Ask about sexual activity if appropriate. Use signs of safety style questions to open up discussion.

Use the CSE risk guidance tool as part of the missing interview if appropriate.

Always securely send the return interview as soon as this is completed to the police at MissingfromHome@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Over 18s.

Child Sexual Exploitation specifically refers to the young person, victim, being under the age of 18 (NWG). This therefore raises a quandary when vulnerable young people over the age of 18 and open to services appear to be being sexually exploited. Adding to this ambiguity is that young people with learning needs and disabilities can also experience exploitation.

We know that the risks of CSE and the vulnerabilities of exploitation do not necessarily cease when a child turns 18, however legally they are no longer a child and therefore the term CSE is not relevant.

When working with a young person at risk of CSE who is broaching the age of 18 it is important to have a robust plan around transitions. Refer into adult social care if necessary and access support/outreach services which will address the vulnerabilities for that young person.

When a young person is in a controlling/unhealthy relationship consider a referral into MARAC.

Work around healthy relationships with young people with additional needs is incredibly important.

For children with learning disabilities refer to Emily Smeaton's 'Unprotected Overprotected' research and practice guide.

Leaving Care.

Pre-18.

A leaving Care Case Worker (LCCW) is usually allocated to a young person when they have reached 17 years and six months, however, where a child has been identified as at risk using the guidance tool, a LCCW should be in place earlier in order they can establish a positive and trusting relationship with the young person before they make the transition to adulthood. The LCCW will join the reviewing process and appropriate tasks identified to support the intervention plan.

For care leavers transitioning from a Residential setting, the adjustment for them is likely to be more critical with a heightened probability of being drawn in to harmful situations.

Post 18

Where care leavers had previously been identified and assessed using the guidance tool, we should have a clear support plan in place and be alert to any change in their behaviour and react promptly to avoid unnecessary risk to them. This plan may need to be adapted in line with the service provided by Leaving Care

Summary:

Boys and girls can both experience CSE and may display this in very different ways.

Boys are not any less at risk than girls but are often not identified as being vulnerable.

Aggression and hostility should not be interpreted as resilience and workers need to be persistent.

Compassion banking means sending regular texts to the young person to remind them that you will be there for them when they want to talk.

Criminality can often be linked to CSE.

Ask yourself how does that child fund their alcohol and drug use?

Exploitation and trafficking are interlinked, an NRM should be completed should you suspect trafficking.

Contacts:

CSE, Missing and Vulnerabilities Coordinator Rebecca Mauganai 01609 536459.
rebecca.mauganai@northyorks.gov.uk

Emma Phillips. Operational Delivery Manager, MAST 01609 798435

Police VAT team 01904 669071/078

VulnerabilityIntelligence@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

nymast@northyorks.gov.uk

Useful links:

Internal NYCC documents:

Sharepoint:

http://sharepoint/sites/CYPS/candfguidance/_layouts/15/start.aspx#/SitePages/Home.aspx?FollowSite=1&SiteName=Children%20and%20Families%20Guidance

Please see the one page guide on Return from Missing Interviews.

Missing from Home and Care Guidance version 11.

NYSCB website-resource section:<http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/resources>

CSE Practice Guide. NYSCB

One minute guide to the NRM. NYSCB.

CSE Risk Management Tool.

External documents:

Research in Practice. 2014. *Risk-taking adolescents and child protection*. Research in Practice. 2013. *Children and young people missing from care and vulnerable to sexual exploitation*. www.rip.org.uk

Department for Communities and Local Government. March 2015. *Reflections on child sexual exploitation*. Louise Casey CB

HM Government. March 2015. *Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation*.

Boys Don't Cry Improving identification and disclosure of sexual exploitation among boys and young men trafficked to the UK. Executive Summary by Lucy Leon and Phil Raws. Children's Society.

Unprotected, overprotected: meeting the needs of young people with learning disabilities who experience, or are at risk of, sexual exploitation. Anita Franklin, Phil Raws and Emilie Smeaton

Useful websites:

<http://www.mesmac.co.uk/projects/blast>

<https://ceop.police.uk/http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/crime-threats/human-trafficking>

<http://www.barnardosrealloverocks.org.uk/dashboard/>



Vulnerable Missing Exploited & Trafficked (VEMT):

Information Gathering and Risk Assessment Tool

This multiagency tool should be used in order to gather all relevant information in relation to a child or young person who may be at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). The tool is designed to identify and assess levels of risk for children and young people & identify any information gaps.

Information must always be evidenced, documenting the source, date received and descriptive narrative of the impact this risk has on the child or young person. Information should be child specific and relate directly to the individual needs of the child or young person.

As well as identifying issues of concern information which identifies protective factors or resilience should also be considered.

Date/Version:

Child/Young		Age / DOB	
-------------	--	-----------	--

Person's Name / Alias / Known As		Address	
Regular Missing Person?		Reported or not reported?	
Person/s of Parental Responsibility		Legal status	
Ethnicity		Gender	
Language Spoken		Physical/Learnin g Disabilities	
If other agencies are involved please list them here		Has sexual exploitation previously been identified as a specific issue for this child? Please provide details	

Vulnerabilities (consider protective factors and resilience)	Please score 1 for each relevant statement, identifying as much detail as known and source of information		
Emotional neglect by parent/carer/family member		Family history of domestic abuse	
Physical abuse by parent/carer/family member		Family history of substance misuse	
Sexual abuse by parent/carer/family member		Family history of mental health difficulties	

Vulnerabilities	Score 1 if present on date of assessment or within a month of the last assessment
------------------------	--

Unsuitable/inappropriate living arrangements – Rationale for decision	
Isolated from peers/social networks – Rationale for decision	
Lack of positive relationship with a protective/nurturing adult – Rationale for decision	

Moderate risk indicators – Rationale for decision making and sources of information to be given for all scores.	Score 1 if present on date of assessment or within a month of the last assessment
Staying out later than expected or agreed	
Multiple callers to residential address or by phone (unknown adults/older young people) – (record details i.e. description/names etc)	
Unusual or increased use of a mobile phone that causes concern	
Expressions of despair (self-harm, overdose, eating disorder, challenging behaviour, aggression etc)	
Exclusion/suspension from school or unexplained absences from or not engaged in school/college/training/work	
Disclosure of sexual/physical assault followed by withdrawal of allegation	
Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's) and request/s for contraception	
Pregnancy Terminations (How many, when and name of suspected father)	
Peers involved in sexual exploitation	
Drug & alcohol misuse	

Unusual or increased use of the internet that causes concern	
Offending behaviour that could be directly linked to CSE – direct examples of links must be provided	

Significant Risk Indicators - Rationale for decision making and sources of information to be given for all scores.	Score 1 if present on date of assessment or within a month of the last assessment
Periods of going missing overnight or longer	
Involved in an inappropriate relationship with a controlling/potentially controlling person that is CSE related (record details i.e. name, dates, occupation/description etc)	
Physical abuse within an inappropriate relationship with a controlling or potentially controlling person including sexual acts	
Emotional abuse within an inappropriate relationship with a controlling or potentially controlling person	
Entering/leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults or adults known to pose a risk – record details i.e. reg no./description etc	
Unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothing or other items	
Frequenting areas known to have links to CSE	
Failing to engage or respond to attempts by worker to keep in touch	

Risk Assessment score		Risk Category	
------------------------------	--	----------------------	--

- **Low risk of sexual exploitation (at risk of being exploited)** (score 0-10)

- **Medium risk of sexual exploitation (at risk of being exploited)** (score 11-19)
- **High risk of sexual exploitation (being exploited)** (score 20+)

Additional professional comments and any additional information not scored

Use this section to give a view about the current risk.

CSE BEDFORDSHIRE RISK TOOL

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE

The CSE risk tool is designed to give an evidenced based guide as to the level of risk related to Child Sexual Exploitation.

The score produced by the tool is a guide only and professional judgement is key.

This guide to the risk tool is intended to provide advice around the best way to complete the form.

Avoid repetition of risk indicators/incidents already mentioned

Only score a point for something that is current

Provide as much info as possible. We don't know what you know.

Submit to
nymast@northyorks.gov.uk

The summary needs to tell us why you think they are at risk

Your professional judgement is important.

High risk CSE needs to be reviewed every 4-6 weeks.

Medium every 6-8 weeks

Low every 8-10 weeks.

Remember to add protective factors.

- After completing the details of the child the first section is Vulnerabilities. Add to a point to each relevant vulnerability, providing a brief statement as to why that applies. These vulnerabilities will remain in place even if they are historical. e.g.

Emotional neglect by parent/carer/family member	1 John has been scapegoated and rejected by his step-father and grandmother since he was around 6 years old.
---	---

- The next section asks you to further consider Vulnerabilities but it clarifies that these need to be within **one month of the current assessment**.

Unsuitable/inappropriate living arrangements – Rationale for decision	0 John has recently sofa surfed but now resides with Mother in a two bedroom flat.
---	---

- The following two sections consider moderate and significant risk indicators. Again these need to be current so please score a point only if this is within the last month of this assessment being completed.

- If you think something is relevant but is historical please add this to the section but do not score a point.
- It is important that relevant details are contained in the assessment. Avoid the use of initials and do not assume that people will know who you are referring to.
e.g.

Significant Risk Indicators - Rationale for decision making and sources of information to be given for all scores.	Score 1 if present on date of assessment or within a month of the last assessment
Periods of going missing overnight or longer	<p>1-John went missing last week and was found at the skate park with SB and Tommo at 5am.</p> <p>1-John went missing on the 5th of May 21:00 and was found at Ripon Skate park with Sarah Brent 11-6-00 and Tom Jones 10-1-99 ('Tommo').</p>

- It is really important that if you refer to a boyfriend or a girlfriend you add their name and any details known of that person. For instance John may have a boyfriend who is older than him. Any details around that person would help such as: John's boyfriend is believed to be in his twenties, he drives a white Volvo and possibly lives near the Co-op on Lead Lane Ripon.
- Avoid repeating information and therefore scoring the same thing twice. The score should be a maximum of one point per risk/vulnerability.
- Total up the score to say which risk level it is.
- In the summary section add why you think they are at risk of CSE, you can add further information here and make reference to historical detail or hearsay.
- Sum up your view about the risk, this is important for MAST to hear as you are the worker who knows the child.
- If you feel the risk is higher or lower than the score suggests then explain why.
- Add any protective factors, these are important as they allow for a balanced view of the risk.
- Avoid copying and pasting from other assessments/case summaries.
- If you are updating a tool that you have recently completed then you can add the updates in red font with dates of the update. Make sure that this is clear and makes sense to the reader. Always update the summary even if it is only to say that the risk has remained the same.

If you need advice or guidance please contact your local CSE Champion, or Rebecca Mauganai CSE, Missing and Vulnerability Coordinator.

Please submit the completed tool to nymast@northyorks.gov.uk

Any information that needs to be shared with the police should be done via 101 or for intelligence via the Partnership Information Sharing Form.

When MAST review the CSE tool they will add a case note to inform you of the decision around risk, they may ring you into the discussion if required. If the case is open to Social Care Rebecca Mauganai will update the case status around the risk level.