

CSE Risk Levels

How to use:

During multiagency Planning Reviews (or separate CSE reviews in the case of LAC/Leaving Care) use this guidance with the up to date information being shared at the meeting to assist you decide what the current level of risk of CSE is to aid ongoing assessment and planning.

Record the outcome of the discussion within the Plan Progress CSE review section (or LAC/LC CSE review doc) and ensure that needs / interventions are recorded within the Child/YP's updated plan.

Non CSE Threshold Level 1	No evidence of Child Sexual Exploitation.
Standard Threshold Level 1/Level 2	At this stage there is no evidence to suggest that the child is exposed to Child Sexual Exploitation, however there are concerns that a child or young person may be at potential risk of Child Sexual Exploitation in the future due to the presence of identified vulnerability factors or warning signs.
Medium Threshold Level 3	There is evidence to suggest that a child or young person may be targeted for opportunistic abuse through exchange of sex for drugs or alcohol perceived affection, sense of belonging, accommodation, money and goods etc.
High Threshold Level 4	There is evidence that a child or young person is currently exposed to Childhood Sexual Exploitation and the risk to the child's safety is significant.

Child Sexual Exploitation – Risk Indicators

Standard Level Indicators

- Regularly coming home late or going missing
- Overtly sexualised dress, sexualised risk taking (including on the internet)
- Meeting people met through BBM/other messenger services/social networking sites
- Unaccounted for money or goods
- Associating with unknown adults
- Associating with other sexually exploited children
- Attending the same place of education as other children who are being sexually exploited
- Gang Association
- Reduced contact with family/friends/other support networks
- Spending excessive periods of time online/ using mobile phone and being defensive/secretive about usage
- Making/receiving explicit videos/Sexting

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- Being picked up/dropped off by cars of unknown adults
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Experimenting with drugs and alcohol
- Poor self-image, mood swings, eating disorders or self-harm, suicidal ideation, emerging psychosis
- Self-neglect
- Physical Injuries
- Offending behaviour
- Non-school attendance

Medium Level Indicators

- Getting into cars with unknown adults or associating with known CSE adults
- Being groomed on the internet
- Clipping (offering to have sex for money/other payment and then running before sex takes place
- Receiving rewards of money or goods for recruiting peers into CSE
- Disclosure of physical sexual assault and then refusing to make/withdrawing complaint
- Reports of being involved in CSE though being seen in 'hotspots' (e.g. in certain flats/houses/cars or in the company of known CSE adults)
- Having a much older boyfriend/girlfriend
- Missing school or excluded from school due to behaviour
- Unaccounted for money or goods including mobile phones, drugs and alcohol
- Multiple sexually transmitted infections
- Self-harming

High Level Indicators

- Child under 13 engaging in penetrative sex with another young person over 15 years old
- Pattern of street homelessness and staying with an adult believed to be sexually exploiting them
- Child under 16 meeting different adults and engaging in sexual activity
- Removed from known 'red-light' district by professionals due to suspected CSE
- Being taken to clubs and/or hotels by adults and engaging in sexual activity
- Disclosure of serious sexual assault and then withdrawal of statement
- Abduction and/or forced imprisonment
- Disappearing from 'the system' with no contact or support
- Being bought
- Chronic drug/alcohol use
- Indicators of CSE alongside self-harming

There are a range of different health symptoms that have been identified in victims of CSE

Physical

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Guidance

- Weight concerns
- Lack of necessary nourishment/not understanding healthy eating
- Short/long-term effects of drug/alcohol abuse
- Missing health appointments due to chaotic lifestyle- poor eye/dental care, missing immunisations
- Underage pregnancy/sharing birth control pills
- UTI/Kidney infections
- Withdrawal and tiredness
- Poor general hygiene/personal care

Mental

- Attachment disorders
- Anger
- Eating disorders
- Self-harm
- Sexually harmful behaviours
- Disassociation
- Identity crisis/low self-esteem
- Anxiety/depression
- Emotional detachment
- Addiction to over-the-counter/prescription/illegal drugs and/or alcohol

Sexual

- STIs
- UTIs
- Long term damage to reproductive organs and future conception
- Contracting incurable diseases
- Unwanted pregnancies
- Overtly sexualised behaviour and/or language
- Tear and object wounds

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