Behaviours: age 0 to 5 years

All green, amber and red behaviours require some form of attention and response. It is the level of intervention that will vary.

**Green behaviours**
- holding or playing with own genitals
- attempting to touch or curiosity about other children’s genitals
- attempting to touch or curiosity about breasts, bottoms or genitals of adults
- games e.g. mummies and daddies, doctors and nurses
- enjoying nakedness
- interest in body parts and what they do
- curiosity about the differences between boys and girls

**Amber behaviours**
- preoccupation with adult sexual behaviour
- pulling other children’s pants down/skirts up/trousers down against their will
- talking about sex using adult slang
- preoccupation with touching the genitals of other people
- following others into toilets or changing rooms to look at them or touch them
- talking about sexual activities seen on TV/online

**Red behaviours**
- persistently touching the genitals of other children
- persistent attempts to touch the genitals of adults
- simulation of sexual activity in play
- sexual behaviour between young children involving penetration with objects
- forcing other children to engage in sexual play

**What is green behaviour?**
- Behaviours reflect safe and healthy sexual development. They are:
  - displayed between children or young people of similar age or developmental ability
  - of potential concern due to activity type, frequency, duration or context in which they occur

**What is amber behaviour?**
- Amber behaviours have the potential to be outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:
  - unusual for that particular child or young person
  - of potential concern due to age, or developmental differences
  - of potential concern due to activity type, frequency, duration or context in which they occur

**What is red behaviour?**
- Red behaviours are outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:
  - excessive, secretive, compulsive, coercive, degrading or threatening
  - involving significant age, developmental, or power differences
  - of concern due to the activity type, frequency, duration or the context in which they occur

**What can you do?**
- Green behaviours provide opportunities to give positive feedback and additional information.

- Amber behaviours signal the need to take notice and gather information to assess the appropriate action.

- Red behaviours indicate a need for immediate intervention and action.
Behaviours: age 5 to 9 years

All green, amber and red behaviours require some form of attention and response. It is the level of intervention that will vary.

**Green behaviours**

- feeling and touching own genitals
- curiosity about other children's genitals
- curiosity about sex and relationships, e.g. differences between boys and girls, how sex happens, where babies come from, same-sex relationships
- sense of privacy about bodies
- telling stories or asking questions using swear and slang words for parts of the body

**Amber behaviours**

- questions about sexual activity which persist or are repeated frequently, despite an answer having been given
- sexual bullying face to face or through texts or online messaging
- engaging in mutual masturbation
- persistent sexual images and ideas in talk, play and art
- use of adult slang language to discuss sex

**Red behaviours**

- frequent masturbation in front of others
- sexual behaviour engaging VLJQLEDQWO\RXQJHURUOHVVEOH children
- forcing other children to take part in sexual activities
- simulation of oral or penetrative sex
- sourcing pornographic material online

**What is green behaviour?**

Green behaviours reflect safe and healthy sexual development. They are:

- displayed between children or young people of similar age or developmental ability
- reflective of natural curiosity, experimentation, consensual activities and positive choices

**What is amber behaviour?**

Amber behaviours have the potential to be outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:

- unusual for that particular child or young person
- of potential concern due to age, or developmental differences
- of potential concern due to activity type, frequency, duration or context in which they occur

**What is red behaviour?**

Red behaviours are outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:

- excessive, secretive, compulsive, coercive, degrading or threatening
- involving significant age, developmental, or power differences
- of concern due to the activity type, frequency, duration or the context in which they occur

**What can you do?**

Green behaviours provide opportunities to give positive feedback and additional information.

Amber behaviours signal the need to take notice and gather information to assess the appropriate action.

Red behaviours indicate a need for immediate intervention and action.
**Behaviours: age 9 to 13 years**

All green, amber and red behaviours require some form of attention and response. It is the level of intervention that will vary.

### Green behaviours
- solitary masturbation
- use of sexual language including swear and slang words
- having girl/boyfriends who are of the same, opposite or any gender
- interest in popular culture, e.g. fashion, music, media, online games, chatting online
- need for privacy
- consensual kissing, hugging, holding hands with peer

### Amber behaviours
- uncharacteristic and risk-related behaviour, e.g. sudden and/or provocative changes in dress, withdrawal from friends, mixing with new or older people, having more or less money than usual, going missing
- verbal, physical or cyber/virtual sexual bullying involving sexual aggression
- LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) targeted bullying
- exhibitionism, e.g. flashing or mooning
- giving out contact details online
- viewing pornographic material
- worrying about being pregnant or having STIs

### Red behaviours
- exposing genitals or masturbating in public
- distributing naked or sexually provocative images of self or others
- sexually explicit talk with younger children
- sexual harassment
- arranging to meet with an online acquaintance in secret
- genital injury to self or others
- forcing other children of same age, younger or less able to take part in sexual activities
- sexual activity e.g. oral sex or intercourse
- presence of sexually transmitted infection (STI)
- evidence of pregnancy

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**What is green behaviour?**

Healthy sexual development. They are:
- displayed between children or young people of similar age or developmental ability
- not unusual for that particular child or young person
- of potential concern due to age, or developmental differences
- of potential concern due to activity type, frequency, duration or context in which they occur

**What is amber behaviour?**

Amber behaviours have the potential to be outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:
- unusual for that particular child or young person
- of potential concern due to age, or developmental differences
- of potential concern due to activity type, frequency, duration or context in which they occur

**What is red behaviour?**

Red behaviours are outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:
- excessive, secretive, compulsive, coercive, degrading or threatening
- involving significant age, developmental, or power differences
- of concern due to the activity type, frequency, duration or the context in which they occur

**What can you do?**

Green behaviours provide opportunities to give positive feedback and additional information.

Amber behaviours signal the need to take notice and gather information to assess the appropriate action.

Red behaviours indicate a need for immediate intervention and action.

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Behaviours: age 13 to 17 years

All green, amber and red behaviours require some form of attention and response. It is the level of intervention that will vary.

**Green behaviours**
- solitary masturbation
- sexually explicit conversations with peers
- obscenities and jokes within the current cultural norm
- interest in erotica/pornography
- use of internet/e-media to chat online
- having sexual or non-sexual relationships
- sexual activity including hugging, kissing, holding hands
- consenting oral and/or penetrative sex with others of the same or opposite gender who are of similar age and developmental ability
- choosing not to be sexually active

**Amber behaviours**
- accessing exploitative or violent pornography
- uncharacteristic and risk-related behaviour, e.g. sudden and/or provocative changes in dress, withdrawal from friends, mixing with new or older people, having more or less money than usual, going missing
- concern about body image
- aking and sending naked or sexually provocative images of self or others
- single occurrence of peeping, exposing, mooning or obscene gestures
- giving out contact details online
- joining adult-only social networking sites and giving false personal information
- arranging a face to face meeting with an online contact alone

**Red behaviours**
- exposing genitals or masturbating in public
- preoccupation with sex, which interferes with daily function
- sexual degradation/humiliation of self or others
- attempting/forcing others to expose genitals
- egressive/exploitative behaviour
- sexually explicit talk with younger children
- sexual harassment
- non-consensual sexual activity
- use of acceptance of power and control in sexual relationships
- genital injury to self or others
- sexual contact with others where there is a big difference in age or ability
- sexual activity with someone in authority and in a position of trust
- sexual activity with family members
- involvement in sexual exploitation
- sexual contact with animals
- receipt of gifts or money in exchange for sex
- excessive, secretive, compulsive, coercive, degrading or threatening
- involving significant age, developmental, or power differences
- of concern due to the activity type, frequency, duration or in which they occur

**What is green behaviour?**
- displayed between children or young people of similar age or developmental ability
- experimentation, consensual activities and positive choices

**What is amber behaviour?**
Amber behaviours have the potential to be outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:
- unusual for that particular child or young person
- of potential concern due to age, or developmental differences
- of potential concern due to activity type, frequency, duration or context in which they occur

**What is red behaviour?**
Red behaviours are outside of safe and healthy behaviour. They may be:
- excessive, secretive, compulsive, coercive, degrading or threatening
- involving significant age, developmental, or power differences
- of concern due to the activity type, frequency, duration or in which they occur

**What can you do?**
Green behaviours provide opportunities to give positive feedback and additional information.

Amber behaviours signal the need to take notice and gather information to assess the appropriate action.

Red behaviours indicate a need for immediate intervention and action.

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