

## What are the indicators of child sexual exploitation?

- Staying out late, unexplained absences or going missing
- Unexplained gifts (which can include cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, food)
- Self-harm
- Significant changes in behaviour
- Substance misuse
- Change in appearance
- STI's or pregnancy
- Withdrawal from family relationships
- Change of peer group or withdrawal from usual peer group
- Secretive about life style
- Secretive and excessive mobile and internet use
- Truancy or exclusion from education
- Associating with peers already identified as at risk of CSE
- Relationships with older people

## What to do if you are worried about a child and sexual exploitation...

Contact:

**FamilyConnect**

**01952 385385**

**familyconnect@telford.gov.uk**

(Out of hours: 01952 676500)

### Other useful contacts/sources of information:

Police: **0300 333 3000**

NSPCC (National Number): **0808 800 5000**

Asian Child Protection line: **0800 096 7719**

PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation):

**0113 240 3040**

Crimestoppers: **0800 555 111**

**www.ceop.gov.uk**

**www.ukhtc.org**

**www.paceuk.info**

**www.barnados.org.uk**

A Guide for  
Parents and Carers

# CATE

Children Abused Through  
Exploitation

A service for young people  
aged 13 -19 at risk of  
exploitation



Text relay



Telephone  
interpretation



D1881



Telford & Wrekin  
COUNCIL

## What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

“Child sexual exploitation is a form of sexual abuse in which a child or young person is exploited, coerced and/or manipulated into engaging in some form of sexual activity in return for something they need or desire and/or for the gain of a third person.

The ‘something’ received by the child can include both tangible items such as food, somewhere to stay, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or money and more intangible ‘rewards’ such as perceived affection, protection or a sense of belonging. Fear of what might happen if they do not comply can also be a significant influencing factor.

Common to all these scenarios is an imbalance of power in favour of the abuser and some degree of coercion, intimidation, exploitation, violence and/or enticement of the child or young person.” (DSCF 2009)

The abuse can be perpetrated by groups or individuals, and by adults or peers.

- Once a referral is received and accepted, a CATE practitioner will contact you and your child to introduce themselves and begin

discussions in order to identify the level of risk of CSE your child may be exposed to.



- We will always work to keep you informed throughout this process.
- If your child is identified as high risk, you and your child will be invited to attend a multi-agency strategy meeting.
- Strategy meetings are held under Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Policy.
- A multi-agency safety plan will be developed to manage and reduce the risk of CSE.
- If your child is identified as low to medium risk, we will still offer one to one support and deliver a scheme of work to educate your child and raise their awareness of CSE.

**We will require you as parents/carers to consent to any work we undertake if the young person is under the age of 16.**

## Who are ‘CATE’ and what do we do?

- A small team within the local Council
- Committed to identifying and working with young people who are at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation
- We build positive and trusting relationships to increase awareness and reduce the risk of CSE
- Working in partnership with all relevant agencies; Police, Safeguarding, Education, Health Services, Social Services and Voluntary Sector
- Offer one to one support delivering the CATE intervention pack covering 6 themes: ‘What is CSE?’, ‘Healthy Relationships’, ‘Understanding Grooming’, ‘Internet Safety’, ‘Sex and the law’, ‘Peer pressure’
- Supporting young people to access other services/agencies as appropriate

**If you are worried about a child and sexual exploitation  
phone FamilyConnect on 01952 385385**