# Contextual Harm Risk Matrix Assessment and Safety Planning Tool

* This tool can help you focus on the specific indicators of risk, vulnerability and exploitation and determine whether further advice and/or support is needed. The assessment should support and inform core professionals’ assessments.
* Professionals need to exercise their own judgement when completing the tool. This includes capturing concerns about which they have some evidence **AND** concerns based on their “gut feelings”. Staff should differentiate between the two and explain this in the notes section.
* Where risk or exploitation is suspected the worker should discuss their concerns with their manager and should also inform their agency’s lead professional who will be monitoring the bigger picture for any emerging patterns.
* Professionals should feel free to use the tool creatively, including as part of awareness raising work with children or in engaging parents and carers in understanding the issues.
* **Please refer to the guidance** for more information about each section and each presenting need and context of risk. This includes guidance on how to undertake a contextual weighting of risk and safety planning to help identify, prevent, protect, disrupt and support against contextual harm.

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| **Name/Role of Person Completing this Assessment**  |  |
| **Date**  |  |
| **Child or young person’s name**  |  |
| **Gender**  |  | **DOB** |   | **AGE** |  |
| **Ethnicity** (note language / need for interpreter) |  |
| **MOSAIC ID**  |  | **YOS Involvement** (Yes / No / Previous) |   |
| **Legal Status** (i.e. S17, S47 CP Plan, S31, Targeted services)  |  | **Known to Police** (Yes / No)  |   |
| **Home Address** (Address / Postcode) |  | **Accommodation Type** (i.e. Home, Residential, Foster Care, Friends & Family, Supported Lodgings) |   |
| **Education Placement** (Name of School) |  | **Current Attendance** (%) |   | **SEND** (Yes/No) |  |
| **Known to Catch22 Risk and Resilience**(Yes / No / Previous) |  | (Note if Catch22 allocated for Substance Misuse, Missing or Exploitation) |   |
| **CAMHS** (Yes / No / Previous) |  | (Note if diagnoses or assessment underway) |  |
| **Physical Health needs** (Yes / No / Previous) |  | Outline any diagnoses / allergies / disabilities |  |
| **NRM Referral made** (Yes / No / Previous) |  | (Note if made, initial confirmation or final conclusive and the date of last activity) |  |

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| **Historical Incidents / Story of the Young Person** |
| Consider cumulative harm and escalating behaviour. Child response to previous parent/carers boundaries or safety plan. Long term history of abuse or harm. | Summary of historical incidents / story of the young person:  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area of presenting needs / harm** | No Concern | Emerging | Moderate | Significant | Total |
| Coercion / Control | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 12 |  |  |
| Running Away / Going Missing | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 10 |  |  |
| Sexual health / harmful sexual behaviour | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 10 |  |  |
| Weapons / Criminal Activity / ASB | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 10 |  |  |
| Use of Social Media / technology | 0 |  | 2 |  | 4 |  | 8 |  |  |
| Substance Misuse | 0 |  | 1 |  | 2 |  | 4 |  |  |
| Physical and Emotional health | 0 |  | 1 |  | 2 |  | 4 |  |  |

Add up the weighted scores totals above to achieve a risk rating:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Little to no concern | 0 – 4  |  |
| EMERGING  | 5 – 16 |   |
| MODERATE  | 17 – 32 |   |
| SIGNIFICANT  | 33 – 50+  |   |

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| Presenting needs and experiences of harm |
| **What are we most worried about?** *Consider frequency, prevalence, severity and impact of presenting needs and experiences of harm. What is the impact on the child’s development and opportunities? Are there overlapping needs that compound the risk?* |
| **What’s working well?** *What are the areas that present no concern and provide opportunities for safety, support and positive outlook?* |
| Grey areas? |
| What needs to happen next? |

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| What are the child/young person’s views and wishes? |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contexts of Harm** | No Concern | Emerging | Moderate | Significant | Total |
| Places / Spaces | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 12 |  |  |
| Peer groups / external relationships | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 12 |  |  |
| Ability of Professionals to engage | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 8 |  |  |
| Education | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 8 |  |  |
| Family relationships / accommodation | 0 |  | 3 |  | 6 |  | 8 |  |  |
| Self / identity / social isolation factors | 0 |  | 2 |  | 4 |  | 6 |  |  |

Add up the weighted scores above to achieve a sub-total:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Little to no concern | 0 – 5  |  |
| EMERGING  | 6 – 16 |   |
| MODERATE  | 17 – 32 |   |
| SIGNIFICANT  | 33 – 50+  |   |

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| Contexts of harm assessment |
| **What are the most worrying contexts of harm?** *Which have the most influence on the risk to the young person? Who is causing the most risk / concern? Which should have protective factors but are not / unable to provide this? What are the dynamics and complicating factors that increase risk? Any changes that increase concern (in the child / family / education etc)?* |
| **What are the safest contexts to protect the young person against harm?** *How are these contexts providing safeguarding, supervision, safety and support? Who are the trusted adults and positive relationships? How are contexts providing value to the young person? Do the parents of a peer group know each other and provide a safety network? What resources and guardianship are available in the areas where most time is spent?* |
| Grey areas – what do we still need to find out? |
| What needs to happen next? |

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| **Other members of the household** |
| Who are the other children in the home? What is the impact, concerns and safety for them?  |

# Final assessment

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## **Final assessment of overall risk**

**Add up** the sub-totals from the presenting needs and context of harm above to achieve a total:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Little to no concern | 0 – 9  |  |
| EMERGING  | 10 – 32  |   |
| MODERATE  | 33 – 64  |   |
| SIGNIFICANT  | 65 – 100+ |   |

Emerging – **child / young person is vulnerable to experiencing harm, including outside the family home**

*Some evidence that the child or young person’s behaviour may have changed and/or is coming to the attention of multiple services. Some evidence that the child or young person is at risk of harm when in the community, school or from their peers but there are protective influences in these spaces. Some concerns that the child/ young person is at risk of being targeted or groomed, but there are positive protective factors in the child’s life. The child / young person may require a referral to targeted early intervention services for education / intervention****.***

Moderate – **child / young person may be experiencing harm, including outside the family home**

*There is evidence the child / young person may experience protective factors, but circumstances and / or behaviours place him/her at risk of harm, exploitation or violence. A plan is likely to be required to support the child and family in managing the experiences and disrupt the contexts where further escalations in risk is identified.*

Significant – **child / young person is experiencing harm, including outside the family home**

*Evidence / disclosure suggests that the child is at immediate and / or continuing risk of exploitation or harm. The child / young person is being drawn or pushed into high risk situations / locations / relationships. Evidence / assessments suggests that the child is experiencing harm / exploitation / violence (they may not recognise this). Coercion / control is explicit.*

# Next steps and planning

* Please refer to the guidance to review the level of involvement required from early help or statutory services and the potential child protection pathway
* The guidance outlines potential next steps for each of the presenting needs / experiences of harm and each of the contexts
* The planning is to support further identification of risk (the need for separate assessments or direct work that is yet to be completed), prevention activities (including partner activities), protection and disruptions for higher risk concerns and support options.
* The assessment and plan is designed to support existing assessment and planning processes focused on assessing contextual harm and increasing adolescent safeguarding.

**Danger statement:**

**Safety Goal:**

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| **Next Steps –** On completion of the Risk Assessment and Management Tool, please make a professional judgement about the level of risk of child sexual or criminal exploitation to the young person (below). Consider priority actions here based on a context weighting decision.Discuss with your line manager around appropriate next steps.  | **Identify –** what direct work needs to occur to help identify risks and perceptions of risk? |
| What needs to happen | Agency / Person | Timescale |
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|  |  |  |
| **Prevent –** what measures can be put in place to prevent escalation of risk? |
| What needs to happen | Agency/Person | Timescale  |
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| **Support** – what is needed to support the child, parents/carers, trusted adults / peers, school / community? |
| What needs to happen | Agency / Person | Timescale |
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| **Disrupt** – what measures are required to monitor / locate / stop risk |
| What needs to happen | Agency / Person | Timescale |
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| **Protect-** what immediate measures need to be put in place to protect the young person? |
| What needs to happen | Agency / Person | Timescale |
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