## **Child Exploitation Multi-Agency Screening Tool**

**Purpose of the screening tool**

This tool should be used by any professional when you suspect a child or young person may be at risk of or experiencing:

* Sexual Exploitation
* Criminal Exploitation
* Modern Day Slavery or Human Trafficking

This tool is intended to *assist* in your decision making and help you make an initial judgement regarding the risk of child exploitation; it is not a specialist assessment and should not be completed by the young person.

**Important notes to remember whilst completing:**

* This tool should be used for any child/young person up to the age of18
* Young people aged 16 and over can still be at risk of/experience child exploitation
* Both boys and girls can experience abuse through exploitation
* Children and young people may not define their experience as abuse and disclosures may not occur in this context
* No child aged 13 or under, and/or who has a learning disability should not be assessed as low risk if there are any concerns relating to child exploitation
* Child exploitation may affect any child in any community
* Child exploitation affects all ethnic groups
* Children with additional needs require special consideration up to the age of 21 years.
* All practitioners should be open to the possibility that the children they work with might be affected.

**Guidance on completion:**

1. The screening tool is intended to assist the exercise of professional judgment by assisting professionals to consider the risk of harm to a child. Professionals are encouraged to go beyond the child’s presenting behaviour e.g. missing episodes and to explore what else might be going on for this child/young person.
2. Assessing or screening for child sexual exploitation should not be seen as a one-off event. Young people can move very quickly between the risk categories, therefore regular assessment should be undertaken using the Screening Tool. Any escalation of risk should be dealt with in accordance with Enfield’s procedures
3. If a child presents with one indicator, action is required. Early intervention improves the chances of positive outcomes. One indicator is unlikely to require Children’s Social Work Services or specialist services intervention unless it is a Significant Risk category.
4. Disruption and prosecution of perpetrator/s is also of significant importance therefore, any information which comes to light about the victim/s or perpetrator/s (however insignificant this may seem) should be passed on to the Police.

**Scoring:**

High Risk – 3 Medium Risk – 2 Low Risk - 1 Not Applicable - 0

**Analysis/comment should be completed for all sections that have a score**.

Please note: a score must be given for **all** items to achieve a total score at the end.

# **Child / Young Person’s Details**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  | | | **Unique Identifier:** |  |
| **Date of birth:** |  | **Age:** |  | **Gender:** | Choose an item. |
| **Ethnicity:** |  | | | **Language:** |  |
| **Home or Placement Address:** |  | | | **Status:** | Choose an item. |
| **School/College:** |  |
| **Disability/SEN:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name & Job Title of person completing:** |  |
| **Contact telephone**  **number(s):** |  |
| **Email:** |  |
| **Date Completed:** |  |

# **Child Exploitation Screening Tool**

|  | Risk Indicator | Score |
| --- | --- | --- |
| S  Sexual, Physical Abuse/Assault and Sexual Health | * Indication or disclosure of physical/sexual abuse * Accused or convicted of crimes involving physical or sexual offences * Experiencing violence or coercion to perform physical/sexual acts * Involved in sexual activity or potentially being sexually exploited * Sexually transmitted infection, Girls – pregnancies * Child is under 13 and has been raped (statutory)/sexually assaulted * Abusive significant relationship * Has an older sexual partner * Feeling pressured to have sex or to perform sexual acts in exchange for status /protection, possessions, substances or affection * Unable to consent owing to intoxication * Made to watch sexual acts * Unsure about sexual orientation | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| A  Accommodation, Absent and missing | * Non-school attender/excluded, truanting * Regular breakdown of education placement * Special educational needs (or suspected) * Missing from home episodes * Staying out late away from home * Care leaver or Looked After Child * Regular breakdown of placements * Found or arrested in locations that are away from home * Stopped or seen in areas of concern | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| F  Familial abuse and concerns at home | * History of abuse/neglect * Breakdown in family relationships * Violence in the home and/or from others * Parental substance abuse / mental health / involved in criminal activity * Mental health concerns * Parent/Carer(s) lack understanding, tolerance and warmth towards the young person * Parent/Carer fails to report missing episodes * Sudden change in relationship between young person and parent/Carer * Not responding to boundaries and parental control * Siblings with additional needs | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| E  Emotional and Physical condition | * Struggling with fatigue, poor self-image, and low self-esteem * Self-harming or thoughts of suicide * Unexplained physical injuries * Violent or aggressive behaviour * Difficulty regulating emotions, extreme varying mood * Looking well cared for/not hungry despite having no known base * Indicators of being exposed to trauma * Offending behaviour | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| G  Association with gangs, criminal groups and adults who pose risk | * Associates with other vulnerable young people possibly known to services or engaged in offending behaviour * Possible exploitation from gangs * Friendship groups known to gangs * Home address in an area affected by gang activity * Seen in areas associated with gangs/ASB/crime * Reduced contact with family and previous friends * Sudden change in social group * Known to be associating with older peers * Abduction/forced imprisonment * Offending or suspicion of criminal exploitation * Showing no sign of financial gain from prolific offending | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| U  Use of technology, social media, online concerns, | * Sharing inappropriate videos/images (sexual or violent) * Posting images relating to offending ie cash, weapons, gang connections * Images/videos circulated via the internet/phones/mobile media * Interacting with a significant number of unknown persons online * Meeting unknown people * Additional phone/ inappropriate over usage of phone * Being secretive using mobile phone * Concern that the child/young person is being coerced, bribed or threatened to provide sexually explicit images or engage in inappropriate online activity * Concern that the child/young person is being paid for sexual acts online | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| A  Alcohol and drugs | * Substance misuse or dependency * Concerns regarding how substances are being accessed * Suspected to be involved in county lines or used to carry drugs * Associations with those known to take or sell drugs | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| R  Receipt of unexplained items | * Unaccounted items or cash with no explanation * Concerns about how young person funds social activities * Use of taxis not paid for by child or carer * Suspicion of parents financial gain from young person’s offending | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| D  Distrust of authority and disengagement from education | * Professionals unable to engage young person * Non-attendance of appointments * Whereabouts at times unknown or young person secretive about whereabouts * Attendance at Pupil Referral Unit/Alternative Provision * Friendships in education setting are with others at risk of child exploitation * Noticeable change in attendance, performance or behaviour * Young person is not in education or employment | Choose an item. |
| Please specify *\* consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* | | 0 |
| Total score | **To calculate score, click on 0 and press F9** | 0 |

# **Risk Management Categories**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk Management Categories** |  | Score | Actions to be taken |
| **Low Risk** | Concern that the child / young person is at risk of being targeted or groomed, but there are positive protective factors in the child /young person life. | 1- 6 | Carry out an Early Help Assessment.  If the decision is no further action, or to offer advice, support, guidance, intervention within the home agency this must be recorded in child’s record /file. Flag/marker on child’s record/file for CSE or CCE.  Continue to monitor. |
| **Medium Risk** | Presenting numerous vulnerability factors.  There is evidence the child /young person may be a risk of opportunistic abuse, or is being targeted /groomed. Some protective factors present.  Would benefit from professional intervention, assessment, awareness and prevention work. | 7-18 | If not already open to children’s Services a referral should be made.  **Strategy discussion** with the professional network is needed for further support/work with the young person & Robust safety plan to be created & implemented. Flag/marker on child’s record/file for CSE or CCE.  A referral is needed into the Enfield **Multi-Agency Child Exploitation** Panel. |
| **High Risk** | Child is presenting high number of vulnerability factors, is known to have been exploited and/or groomed.  Regularly goes missing and concerns in relation to drugs/alcohol and inappropriate adult associates.  Child has disclosed exploitation.  Requires statutory intervention to protect. A strategy meeting should take place | 19-27 | A referral is needed into the Enfield Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Panel.  Ongoing **Strategy discussions** with the professional network are needed to create and/or update robust safety plan. Flag/marker on child’s record/file for CSE or CCE.  **If it is felt that a child is at immediate risk of harm, the Police must be contacted on 999.** |
| **Confirmed Child Exploitation** | The child has been subject to a police investigation and there have been charges made with identified perpetrators and appropriate strategy discussion has taken place. |  | Continued Safety plan |