

Further Information / Referral links:

- [RSCP CSE help & guidance](#)
- [RSCP CSE who can help \(girls\)](#)
- [RSCP CSE who can help \(boys\)](#)
- [RSCP CSE e-learning for parents, carers and professionals](#)
- [Rotherham Worried about an Adult or Child Flowchart](#)
- [Report suspected abuse of a child/young person](#)

[Rotherham Safeguarding Childrens Partnership website](#)

Prevention

The [NSPCC](#) offers advice including:

- ◆ helping children to understand their bodies and sex age-appropriate
- ◆ developing an open and trusting relationship, so they feel they can talk to you about anything
- ◆ explaining difference between safe and unsafe secrets
- ◆ teaching children to respect family boundaries, such as privacy in sleeping, dressing and bathing
- ◆ teaching self-respect and how to say no
- ◆ supervising internet, mobile and television use

NSPCC

Signs of CSE

- ◆ going missing for periods of time or regularly returning home late
- ◆ skipping school or being disruptive in class
- ◆ appearing with unexplained gifts or possessions that can't be accounted for
- ◆ experiencing health problems that may indicate a [sexually transmitted infection](#)
- ◆ having mood swings/changes in temperament
- ◆ using drugs and/or alcohol
- ◆ displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviour, dressing in a sexualised manner or texting sexual images ("sexting")
- ◆ they may also show signs of unexplained physical harm, such as bruising and cigarette burns

Local context

[RSCP CSE Strategy 2019-22](#)

Rotherham response to CSE highlights a clear need to ensure that there is not just a response from within the Multi-Agency Arrangements for Safeguarding Children, but that there is a coordinated strategic response and oversight in relation to the role of early identification, prevention and disruption linked to victims, offenders and locations. These are key areas which are of interest to and within the priorities of both the Safer Rotherham Partnership and the Health and Well-being Board.

Introduction

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation **does not always involve physical contact**; it can occur through the use of technology.

Young people under the age of 16 cannot legally give consent to sexual activity.

Sexual intercourse with a child under the age of 13 is **statutory rape**

Why it matters?

Children who become exploited in this type of abuse face huge risks to their physical, psychological and emotional health. Victims require long term intensive support. The perpetrators are criminals and must be pursued through the courts.

Additional Vulnerability

- ◆ Neglected children and those left to their own devices
- ◆ Children in Care | Early CP concerns
- ◆ Previous sexual abuse | Family bereavement
- ◆ Substance misuse | Family alcohol use
- ◆ Poor school attendance | Peers being exploited | Homelessness | Poverty
- ◆ Domestic violence | Previous abuse | Dysfunctional family
- ◆ Learning disabilities | Learning difficulties
- ◆ Male domination | Gang association