

Child Exploitation



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Sexual Exploitation

“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 also occur through the use of technology.”

Child Sexual Exploitation - Definition and a Guide for Practitioners, Local Leaders and Decision Makers (DfE, 2017)

Criminal Exploitation

“where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into any criminal activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or (c) through violence or the threat of violence. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child criminal exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.”

Serious Violence Strategy (HM Government, 2018)

Signs of Child Exploitation

Some signs that a child may be being exploited can include:

- Missing school
- Travelling alone, particularly in school hours, late at night or frequently
- Staying out late or overnight
- Unexplained gifts/new possessions/possession of unexplained cash
- Drugs and alcohol misuse
- Secretive behaviour
- Inappropriate or sexualised behaviour
- Friendship or relationships with older adult/persons of concern
- Significant changes in mood or behaviour changes in appearance (clothes, hygiene, etc)
- Becoming withdrawn or isolated, poor mental health/self-harm etc.
- Lots of time spent on social media talking to 'friends' they haven't met or that family don't know
- Unexplained injuries
- They own a second mobile phone from which they are receiving a high volume of calls or need to leave urgently after receiving a text/call

Child Exploitation and Missing

Every 3 minutes a child goes missing from home or care

144

children go missing or run away each day in the UK

1 in 10

RHI completed by Missing People have been linked to CCE

40% of children who have been sexually exploited have been missing in at least one occasion

2 in 3

children who go missing are not reported missing to the police

Children NOT open to Children Services

**Complete the
CE
Vulnerability
Checklist**

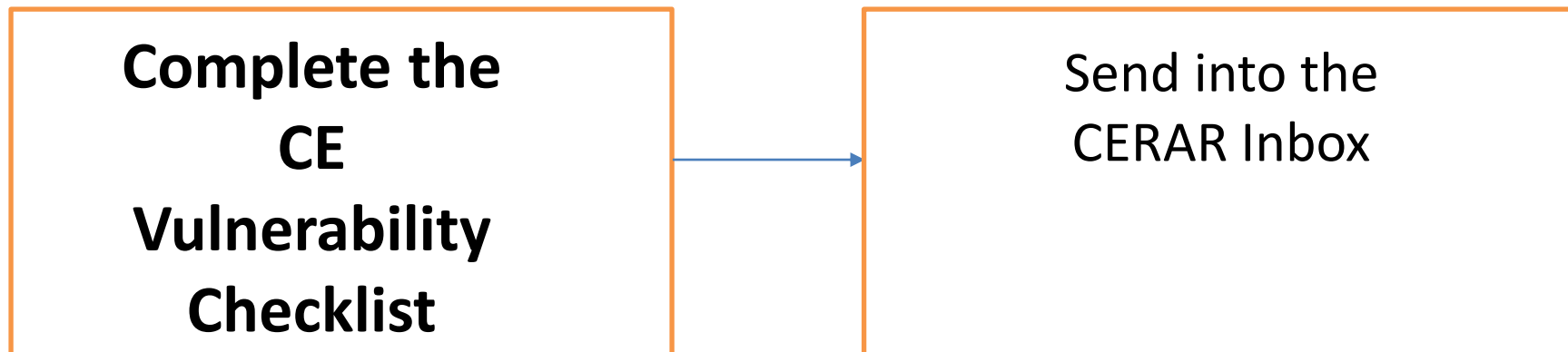


Complete the
single contact
form and submit
with checklist

Where CE is flagged as a concern CERAR will be involved in the multi-agency assessment in the safeguarding hub

This will result in CE Pathway to end or LEVEL 1 meeting to take place chaired by CERAR.

Children open to Children Services



CERAR will offer a consultation and decide whether Pathway ends or a LEVEL 1 meeting to take place chaired by CERAR.

Review Process

Children Low CE
Concerns

12 week reviews METCOS will
support those being held at
Early Help

Children
Medium/High CE
Concerns

Can never be held at Early
Help
High Reviewed 4 weekly and
Medium 8 chaired by
Complex Safeguarding Team
Manager

Multi-agency Information Sharing Form

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE when complete



Multi-Agency Information Submission Form

THIS FORM IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR ANY SAFEGUARDING REFERRAL AND SHOULD NOT BE USED AS SUCH.

This form is for the sharing of **non-urgent information** by partner agencies that relates to the **exploitation of children and vulnerable adults**, for the purposes of identifying and mitigating risk.

[Child Exploitation \(CE\) : Cumbria County Council \(cumbriasafeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](#)

Training

- Training CSCP website
- Level 1 Child Exploitation training via eLearning
- Level 2 Child Exploitation training in person
- CE champions – point of contact in organisation access to additional training and CE champions sessions.



Thank you, any questions?

