



Devon
Safeguarding Children
Board

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)



Devon & Cornwall Police

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?



Child sexual exploitation is a type of sexual abuse.

Child sexual exploitation can happen to boys or girls who are under 18 years old.



Child sexual exploitation is when a person uses a child for sex or sexual things.

They might give a child treats, drugs, food or money if they do sexual things.



Someone may contact a child on the internet. The child may not know the person. The person might ask the child to put pictures of themselves on the internet.



Then they may start to threaten a child. By making threats they will try and get a child to do what they want them to.

Things to look out for



The child may start missing school.



The child may not want to come home.

The child may bring home presents or money that you did not know about.



The child may start to hurt themselves or try and commit suicide.



The child may have an older boyfriend or girlfriend. The child may start drinking alcohol or using drugs.



The child / young person may have a sexual infection, get pregnant or lose a baby because of a miscarriage.



The child may have injuries that look as if they have been hurt or abused.



The child may use their phone or computer in secret.



The child may start to change the way they look and behave.

The child may get involved in crime.

Their behaviour may become more sexual.



The child might get moody, withdrawn and quiet, or they may get angry and aggressive.

The child may be involved with other children who are at risk of exploitation.



They may get involved with gangs or be collected by car by someone that you do not know.

The internet and Child Sexual Exploitation



Children are very good at getting on to the internet without help from their parents.

Phones and computers can be used to get on the internet at any time.



Not everyone on the internet is who they say they are. People tell lies. They use pictures that are not real and they do not tell the truth about who they really are.

Some parents do not understand the internet and how dangerous it can be.



A child who does not have many friends and spends a lot of time on their own is at greatest risk of exploitation.

What to do if you are worried



Everyone needs to make sure children and young people are safe.

Child sexual exploitation is a type of sexual abuse and everyone needs to stop abuse from happening.



If a child goes missing do tell someone and let the police know.



If you think a child or young person living in Devon is at risk of abuse you should contact the Police. In an emergency (someone is in danger now) call 999.

If it is not an emergency call 101.

You can also get in touch with police in other ways:



101@dc.police.uk



www.dc.police.uk/reportcrime



For the Deaf / hard of hearing or speech impaired:

999 Emergency www.emergencysms.org.uk

18000 Emergency Minicom/textphone no.



67101 Non-emergency SMS/text number

18001 101 Non-emergency Minicom/textphone no.

Useful contacts



You can also ring the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0345 155 1071. A social worker will listen to what you say.

There is more information about MASH on the Devon County Council website.



If you are under 19 years old you can ring Childline (for free) for support if there is anything worrying you.