**Contextual Safeguarding**

**Child Exploitation and Vulnerability Indicators**

**Practice Toolkits**

The Exploitation Toolkits and Harm and Vulnerability Indicators are intended to ***assist*** in your decision making. They do not provide an exhaustive list and nor do they, or could they, cover every eventuality. Those using the tools are reminded of the complexity, unpredictability and uncertainty at play in decision-making. Clear analysis should be made, drawn upon evidence in the context of which harm has or may occur, with differentiation between fact and professional opinion.

* The screening toolkit is designed to assist all practitioners to make an initial judgement regarding the risk of child exploitation. If concerns are identified the screening toolkit should be submitted with a C1. It may also be used and updated by IAA Teams when making a determination and/or for example, during a ‘What Matters’ discussion to further inform decision making on determinations or when a possible new concern has been identified on an open case.
* The assessment toolkit is designed to assist the multi-agency network explore the protective factors, risks and vulnerabilities where exploitation has been identified a concern. This can be utilised within preventative and/or statutory services. It is an aide to inform assessments and outcomes for children and young people. The assessment toolkit is separated into two sections:
1. **Section 1** helps practitioners to think about all the circumstances in a child’s life that will be useful in making decisions about early help and prevention and in planning care support and protection if the child is at risk.
2. **Section 2** helps practitioners to consider, identify and clearly record signs which may indicate that a child is at risk or being abused. This section helps practitioners to discuss, record and share concerns about exploitation. Practitioners should always consider the inter-sectional relationship between varying forms of exploitation as they are not always exclusive, and a victim can be subject of multiple forms of abuse and exploitation at any given time.

The Practice Tools are intended to support 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. It allows you to explore some of the vulnerabilities and indicators present in a child that might be at risk of or experiencing exploitation. It is intended to help practitioners think about what the risks might be to the child and about what to do with the information known.

The Harm and Vulnerability Indicators is designed to assist practitioners in their judgement on the level of risk that may be identified. This tool is set out under heading supporting the completion of the assessment tool. Whilst this contains a RAG rated system, professionals **must** always exercise their professional judgement and not rely solely on this tool to inform their analysis and decision making.

Assessment or screening for child 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 Exploitation Tools. Any escalation of risk should be dealt with in accordance with **Wales Safeguarding Procedures**.

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. This can be done by using the South Wales Police, Intelligence Submission Form.

**If you suspect anyone is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999.**

**Exploitation Screening Toolkit**

The screening toolkit is designed to assist all practitioners to make an initial judgement regarding the risk of child exploitation. The Exploitation and Violence Indicator can be used to support professional judgement. If concerns are identified the screening toolkit should be submitted with a C1 and any other relevant assessments.

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| **SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS****If any of these are known to have happened and you are not sure if Police or Social Care are aware you must refer to the relevant Local Authority Children Services or direct to the Police in emergencies.** **(Tick all that apply and provide as much detail as possible including any known victims, offenders, locations and themes)** |
|  | YES | NO | Unknown | Detail: (who has shared this information) |
| Child may be a victim of sexual abuse/child sexual exploitation This may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or nonpenetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing, and touching outside clothing. It may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet)**Any child under 13 who is a victim of penetrative sex has been raped – this must be reported to SWP immediately** |  |  |  |  |
| Child may be frequenting areas known for on/off street sex work |  |  |  |  |
| Being taken to brothels/massage parlours |  |  |  |  |
| Child may be a victim of grooming This involves a situation where a person communicates with and attempts to form a relationship with the intention of putting them in a position where they can be abused. |  |  |  |  |
| Child may be a victim of criminal exploitationChild may be coerced, forced or manipulated into holding and/or movement of drugs or money or being asked to commit criminal offences i.e. theft, gang related offences, harming others (physically, emotionally – direct or indirect i.e. online)This can also include single perpetrators (including family members and through Wales (or other) based gangs.Child may be forced to provide labour i.e. cutting/bagging drugs, collecting debts for offenders for illegal purposes |  |  |  |  |
| Child may be a victim of coercive controlThis can include control through the provision of something the child wants or needs or through threat of removing these and/or threats of or actual physical violence, emotional abuse toward them and or someone they care about. |  |  |  |  |
| The child is entering/leaving vehicles with unknown adults |  |  |  |  |
| The child is meeting different adults and subjected to sexual/criminal activity, including on the internet. |  |  |  |  |
| The child is receiving unexplained wealth or gifts directly from an adult whose intent is to criminally or sexually exploit a child. |  |  |  |  |
| Disclosure of sexual/physical assault followed by withdrawal of allegation |  |  |  |  |
| Knowledge of towns or cities child/young person has no previous connection with |  |  |  |  |
| Being taken to clubs or hotels and may be subjected to sexual activity |  |  |  |  |
| Abduction or forced imprisonment |  |  |  |  |
| Association with taxi firms/takeaway owners (night-time economy) |  |  |  |  |
| Seen in or known to frequent hotspots (certain flats, recruiting areas, cars or houses) |  |  |  |  |
| The child has discussed locations where they feel unsafe/safe including online spaces |  |  |  |  |
| The child is involved in group based violence/ gang affiliation |  |  |  |  |
| Other evidence or reasonable cause to believe a child or adult is suffering abuse through sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, forced labour or domestic servitude, slavery, financial exploitation, illegal adoption, removal of organs of the child. |  |  |  |  |
| The child is involved in hate crime and/or language and/or beliefs indicate concerns in respect of extremism i.e. supporting terrorism and/or extremist ideologies.  |  |  |  |  |
| Analysis/Comment: Please consider strength factors, previous harm and actions already taken |
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| **VULNERABILITIES**These are things which may make a young person more at risk of being targeted for Exploitation. They give context to the specific indicators of Exploitation in the next section. However, the absence of these vulnerabilities does not preclude children being targeted; evidence shows victims can come from any background and without any prior vulnerability. (Tick all that apply). |
|  | YES | NO | Unknown | Detail: |
| Has CSE/CCE (or other form of exploitation and violence) previously been identified as a specific issue for this child |  |  |  |  |
| National Referral Mechanism (NRM) status (please add reference if known) |  |  |  |  |
| Migrant/refugee/asylum seeker/trafficked |  |  |  |  |
| Children who are not UK citizens and do not have immigration status |  |  |  |  |
| Child is/has previously been care experienced and or is a care leaver |  |  |  |  |
| Child is currently on the Child Protection Register (include category of harm if known) |  |  |  |  |
| Child is known to Social Care including Early Help/Preventative Services, now or previously |  |  |  |  |
| Involvement with Youth Justice |  |  |  |  |
| Child is not in full time education, employment or training (if known, include details of any reduced timetables/exclusions/fixed term penalties or whether the child is Home Educated) |  |  |  |  |
| Neglect by parent/carer/family member |  |  |  |  |
| Physical/learning disabilities or difficulty including communication issues  |  |  |  |  |
| Child has neurodiversity diagnosis/traits |  |  |  |  |
| Is the child receiving support or services from any other agency, such as drug/alcohol or mental health services? |  |  |  |  |
| Child with poor mental health  |  |  |  |  |
| Low self-esteem or history of being bulled or bullying |  |  |  |  |
| Lack of positive relationship with a protective/nurturing adult |  |  |  |  |
| Recent bereavement or loss |  |  |  |  |
| Young carer |  |  |  |  |
| Disconnecting from support networks, i.e. family/friends |  |  |  |  |
| Peer group is known to professional network |  |  |  |  |
| Frequently involved with Anti-Social Behaviour (include if known to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Services) |  |  |  |  |
| Unsure about sexual orientation or unable to disclose sexual orientation to their families/friends |  |  |  |  |
| Physical/emotional/sexual abuse by parent/carer/family member |  |  |  |  |
| Unsuitable or inappropriate accommodation (Inc Street homelessness, staying with inappropriate adults/hostel/B&B) |  |  |  |  |
| Living in a chaotic or dysfunctional household |  |  |  |  |
| History of/current substance misuse in family |  |  |  |  |
| Family history of exploitation or prostitution |  |  |  |  |
| Family history of mental health difficulties impacting parenting |  |  |  |  |
| Breakdown of family relationships |  |  |  |  |
| History of/current domestic abuse (including risk of forced marriage/honour-based violence/familial child sexual abuse) |  |  |  |  |
| Poverty or deprivation |  |  |  |  |
| Child not known to authorities – who may be from affluent families |  |  |  |  |
| Children who have none of the above factors but may be in proximity to someone seeking to exploit children. |  |  |  |  |
| Analysis/Comment: Please consider strength factors, previous harm and actions already taken |
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| **RISK INDICATORS**Children are groomed and exploited in different ways. Below are some signs that may signify if the child is at risk of or actually being groomed and/or exploited. Please consider in the context of the family/home/relationships and wider community (Tick all that apply) |
| **Physical & Emotional Health**  |
|  | YES | NO | Unknown | Detail |
| Noticeable change in behaviour and/or in physical appearance (e.g. new clothes/trainers/jewellery/accessories, more/less make-up, weight gain/loss) |  |  |  |  |
| Noticeable change in behaviour and/or in emotional presentation (more withdrawn, extreme mood changes, anger/aggressive outbursts) |  |  |  |  |
| Increased health/sexual health related problems |  |  |  |  |
| Marks or scars or physical injuries on the body or face which they attempt to conceal |  |  |  |  |
| Does the child have unexplained injuries |  |  |  |  |
| Expressions of despair (including: depression, mental ill health, self-harm, suicidal thoughts/attempts, overdose, eating disorder) |  |  |  |  |
| Branding (e.g. of gang logos, tattoos, extremist signs and symbols including on clothing/memorabilia) |  |  |  |  |
| Repeat/unplanned pregnancy or pregnancies (including ending in termination/miscarriage(s)) |  |  |  |  |
| Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and/or repeat tests particularly with negative results |  |  |  |  |
| Child has sought/seeking emergency contraception |  |  |  |  |
| Increased alcohol/drug use |  |  |  |  |
| Does the child frequently attend A&E |  |  |  |  |
| Child has health issues that suggest that drugs may have been internally inserted into their rectum or vagina by themselves or others, sometimes known as ‘plugging’ |  |  |  |  |
| Is there anything different about the child’s physical and emotional wellbeing following a missing episode |  |  |  |  |
| Child is fatigued /has physical signs of possible labour exploitation or domestic servitude |  |  |  |  |
| **Behaviour & Experiences** |

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|  | YES | NO | Unknown | Detail |
| Increasingly disruptive behaviour i.e. hostility, physically and verbally aggressive including use of sexualised or inappropriate language |  |  |  |  |
| Increasingly withdrawn i.e. isolated, secretive, not socialising with usual peer/social group  |  |  |  |  |
| Child has new/extra mobile phones/technological equipment  |  |  |  |  |
| Child in possession of unexplained money |  |  |  |  |
| Concealed/concerning use of the internet including webcam, on-line gaming (via X-box, PlayStation) chat rooms, etc |  |  |  |  |
| Concerns about the way in which the child uses their mobile phone or the internet |  |  |  |  |
| Exclusion from school or unexplained absences from, or not engaged in school/college/training/work |  |  |  |  |
| Failing to respond to attempts to keep in touch by workers/carer or recent disengagement |  |  |  |  |
| Reports of being taken to hotels, nightclubs, takeaways or out of area by unknown adults |  |  |  |  |
| Child has inappropriate sexualised behaviour, including on internet or mobile phone, such as sexting (sending explicit messages or photos to adults or peers) |  |  |  |  |
| Child has/is sexually harassing peers online |  |  |  |  |
| Child has harmful sexual behaviour online or offline |  |  |  |  |
| Child has been a victim and /or perpetrator of child sexual abuse, sexual assault or rape |  |  |  |  |
| LGBTQ community exploring sexuality in unsupported way |  |  |  |  |
| Association with gangs/fear of victimisation by gangs |  |  |  |  |
| Increasing use of drugs or alcohol or misuse of drugs or alcohol |  |  |  |  |
| Inability to negotiate exit from a gang due to fear/dependency |  |  |  |  |
| Displaying signs of harassment/unwanted attention |  |  |  |  |
| Evidence of bullying and/or vulnerability through the internet and/or social networking sites |  |  |  |  |
| Evidence of threats to share inappropriate videos/images  |  |  |  |  |
| Involved in criminal offending activity (i.e. anti-social behaviour/criminal damage/theft) |  |  |  |  |
| Unusual association with groups of adults |  |  |  |  |
| Increased behavioural difficulties with no reasonable explanation |  |  |  |  |
| Child has been/is violent or abusive toward parent/carer |  |  |  |  |
| Child has been/is a victim/perpetrator in an abusive peer relationship |  |  |  |  |
| Child is abusive toward siblings and/or other children |  |  |  |  |
| Child is regularly going missing in daytime (whereabouts unknown) |  |  |  |  |
| Child is regularly going missing at nighttime (whereabouts unknown) |  |  |  |  |
| The child is secretive /some of the information they share about where they have been or who they have been with has regularly been found to be untrue |  |  |  |  |
| Child tell their stories with obvious errors, inconsistencies or a lack of reality. |  |  |  |  |
| Is there anything different about the child’s behaviour following a missing episode |  |  |  |  |
| Child claims to have been in the UK for years but has very poor English /understanding of culture |  |  |  |  |

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| **Appearance and possessions** |
|  | YES | NO | Unknown | Detail |
| Unexplained amounts of money, mobiles, credit, expensive clothing, trainers, cosmetics, jewellery, or other items/gifts |  |  |  |  |
| Having multiple mobile phones, sim cards or use of a phone that causes concern – multiple callers or more texts/pings than usual |  |  |  |  |
| Possession of hotel keys/cards or keys to unknown premises |  |  |  |  |
| Is there a risk present to others, i.e. other child/vulnerable adult? |  |  |  |  |
| Is frequently travelling between local area/out of county and other country |  |  |  |  |
| Child has been associating with peers who are known to carry knives of other weapons/ or is carrying knives and other weapons |  |  |  |  |

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| Analysis/Comment: Please consider strength factors, previous harm and actions already taken |
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| **OTHER RISK INDICATORS**  |
|  | YES | NO | Unknown | Detail |
| Associating/relationship with significantly older men or women who encourage emotional dependence, loyalty and isolation from safe people. |  |  |  |  |
| Physical or emotional abuse by a boyfriend/girlfriend or controlling adult including use of manipulation, violence and/or threats. This could include a social relationship or ‘romantic’ relationship. |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is in a controlling relationship with a peer. This could include a social relationship or a ‘romantic’ relationship |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest the child is in contact with a group, gang or organised network online or offline |  |  |  |  |
| Associating with other exploited children. |  |  |  |  |
| Association with any known offenders |  |  |  |  |
| Multiple callers and multiple phones (unknown adults/older young people). |  |  |  |  |
| Estranged from family and or pulling away |  |  |  |  |
| Regularly coming home late or going missing from home, care or education for any period of time (whether reported or not). |  |  |  |  |
| Returning home after long intervals appearing well cared for and or unkempt. |  |  |  |  |
| Any concerns about addresses/spaces/places the child visits |  |  |  |  |
| Is there any information to suggest that the child is travelling to/has been to other locations/ out of county or out of country  |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest the child is in contact with a group, gang or organised network online or offline  |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is in a controlling relationship with an adult(s) and/or is in debt bondage.  |  |  |  |  |
| Have any peers who practitioners have concerns about been identified in the child’s life/that the child is in contact with online or offline |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is being groomed online or offline. |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is in a controlling relationship with a peer(s). |  |  |  |  |
| Has the child been seen getting in or out of cars driven by unknown adults |  |  |  |  |
| Have any concerns about addresses/spaces/places the child visits been identified |  |  |  |  |
| Is there any information to suggest that the child is travelling to/has been to other locations/ out of county or out of country  |  |  |  |  |
| Is there any information to suggest that the child has been receiving lots of visits at their accommodation or a meeting place in the community |  |  |  |  |
| Child has had drugs internally inserted into their rectum or vagina by themselves or others, sometimes known as ‘plugging’ / items used to carry drugs internally found  |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest gang associated sexual violence e.g. initiation, child expected by gang to use sexual interest to entrap peers, threats of sexual violence |  |  |  |  |
| Child has been a victim of physical violence and/or talks about fear of physical violence |  |  |  |  |
| Child’s parents or family have a history or current offending behaviours/criminality |  |  |  |  |
| Child’s siblings or other family members have been criminally exploited |  |  |  |  |
| Child or child’s peer group involved in anti-social and/or offending behaviour |  |  |  |  |
| Child has stolen money or goods from parent/carers /other relatives |  |  |  |  |
| Child has been found in possession of quantities of drugs that are too large to be for personal use.  |  |  |  |  |
| Child talks about having a debt bondage |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest the child is in contact with a group, gang or organised network online or offline  |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is in a controlling relationship with an adult(s) and/or is in debt bondage.  |  |  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that adult(s) in the child’s life may be claiming to have a legitimate connection to the child but that this is /may be untrue. |  |  |  |  |
| Accompanied by an adult who may not be the legal guardian and insists on remaining with the child at all times |  |  |  |  |
| Information to suggest labour exploitation/ must earn set amount of money a day |  |  |  |  |
| Information to suggest domestic exploitation /performs excessive chores and rarely leaves address |  |  |  |  |
| Being found in areas where they have no known connections  |  |  |  |  |
| Information that the child talks about /is familiar with places out of county or out of country with no known connections to that place |  |  |  |  |
| No evidence that child has entered the country legally |  |  |  |  |
| Unable to confirm name or address of person meeting them on arrival in UK |  |  |  |  |
| Accompanying adult previously made multiple visa applications for other children / acted as the guarantor for other children’s visa applications |  |  |  |  |
| Journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family |  |  |  |  |
| Registered at multiple addresses |  |  |  |  |
| Pattern of street homelessness |  |  |  |  |
| Child found at address with other unrelated children |  |  |  |  |
| Limited freedom of movement |  |  |  |  |
| Unusual hours / regular patterns of child looked after leaving or returning to placement which indicates probable working |  |  |  |  |
| Child found in area with which they have no known links |  |  |  |  |
| Child found with keys to unknown premises |  |  |  |  |
| No passport or other means of identity |  |  |  |  |
| Unable or reluctant to give accommodation or other personal details |  |  |  |  |
| False documentation or genuine documentation that has been altered or fraudulently obtained; or the child claims that their details (name, date of birth) on the documentation is incorrect. |  |  |  |  |
| Child is not registered with any services i.e. GP, Education etc |  |  |  |  |
| Analysis/Comment: Please consider strength factors, previous harm and actions already taken |
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| **Risk of Radicalisation and extremism** |
| *The following is not directed at any specific ideology, religion, religious group or religious faith or any other sets of beliefs.* | YES | NO | Unknown | Detail |

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| **Identity** – that the individual feels ‘distance’ from society or cultural and religious heritage, and radicalisation occurs as people search for identity, meaning and community. |  |  |  |  |
| **Personal Crisis** – individuals often feel tension within the family, experience a sense of isolation or have a low self-esteem. They disassociate from existing friendship groups and are susceptible to becoming involved with new, possibly extremist groups. More vulnerable groups in this category could be those who are homeless, looked after children and young people, those with a learning disability or mental health illness. |  |  |  |  |
| **Personal Circumstances** – local community tensions and events affecting their country or region of origin. They feel alienation from UK values and may feel a sense of grievance, real or perceived, triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy. |  |  |  |  |
| **Criminality** – experiences of imprisonment and poor reintegration into society. They may have previous involvement with criminal groups which they find difficult to ignore. |  |  |  |  |

***This form is a guide to professionals and there is no set number of criteria that need to be met, but professionals are encouraged to reflect upon the indicators and vulnerabilities and exercise their own judgement.***

**Child Exploitation Assessment Toolkit**

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| **It is the responsibility of the multi-agency professional network to contribute to the assessment tool, sharing any relevant information, assessments/plans held by the respective agency.** |
| **Childs Name**  | **DOB** | **Address** | **WCCIS ID** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Date Assessment Started:** |  | **Lead Practitioner (including contact details):** |  |

**Section 1: Information about the child and any services working with the child.**

**Section 1** of the assessment tool is an opportunity to gather in one place all the information available about the child and the issues that may be affecting their safety and wellbeing.

Lots of the issues asked about in Section 1 affect children and do not necessarily indicate that they are currently at risk. However, as well as indicating possible risk of harm, they provide an opportunity to consider whether the child needs further support to prevent their circumstances leaving them vulnerable to risk and abuse. Complete as much information as you can about the child. Further information can be added in the event that a multi-agency discussion and/or strategy meeting are required.

Some items just require an X to mark if they are true for the child. Some items ask for further information if relevant. If they are not true for the child leave the box blank.

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| **Health and wellbeing of the child** |
| **Emotional and mental health**  | **Further information if relevant** |
| Child appears to have good emotional wellbeing |  |
| Child has poor emotional wellbeing and emotional regulation  |  |
| Child has experienced earlier trauma (including abuse) |  |
| Child has behavioural difficulties  |  |
| Child has mental health difficulties  |  |
| Is the child getting support for any of the above issues? Are they actively engaging in this support? |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |
| **Alcohol and drug use** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known**  |
| Child is using alcohol in a way that causes practitioners/parents concern, is there dependency?  |  |  |
| Child is using drugs in a way that causes practitioners/parents concern, is there dependency? |  |  |
| Is the child getting support for any of the above issues? Are they actively engaging in this support? |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |
| **Sexual health**  | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child has an understanding of healthy relationships commensurate with their age and/or stage of development and knows where to get support and advice when needed |  |  |
| Child is sexually active |  |  |
| Child has sought/seeking STI (Sexually Transmitted Infections) tests  |  |  |
| Child has sought/seeking emergency contraception  |  |  |
| Child has sought/seeking termination of pregnancies(s)  |  |  |
| If any of the above true do practitioners/parents have any concerns that these were the result of non-consensual or age/stage inappropriate sexual activity?  |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |
| **Sexual Abuse and Violence** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child has made an allegation about child sexual abuse/exploitation, sexual assault or rape and then withdrawn the allegation |  |  |
| Child has been a victim of child sexual abuse/exploitation, sexual assault or rape |  |  |
| Child has inappropriate sexualised behaviour for their age and/or stage of development[Hackett Continuum](https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/harmful-sexual-behaviour/understanding) |  |  |
| Child has/is sexually harassing peers online or offline |  |  |
| Child has harmful sexual behaviour online or offline |  |  |
| Is the child getting support for any of the above issues? Are they actively engaging in support? |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |
| **Concerns about domestic abuse** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) if known** |
| Child has lived in a household where there is domestic abuse  |  |  |
| Child has been/is in a violent/abusive peer relationship as a victim of abuse |  |  |
| Child has been/is abusive in a peer relationship  |  |  |
| Child is violent or abusive to a parent or carer  |  |  |
| Child is violent or abusive to siblings and/or other children |  |  |
| Is the child getting support for any of above issues? Are they actively engaging in support? |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |
| **Positive things in the child’s life** | **Further information if relevant** |
| What does the child say is positive about their life and what matters to them?  |  |
| What do parent/carers say is positive about the child and about the child’s life? What do they think it is important for practitioners to know about the child? |  |
| What do practitioners who know the child say is positive about the child and about the child’s life? What do they think it is important for everyone to know about the child?  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |

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| **Adults in the child’s life** |
|  | **Further information if relevant**  | **Name(s) if known**  |
| At least one supportive parent/carer that the child has a good relationship with  |  |  |
| Another relative or safe adult that the child trusts and that services consider appropriate  |  |  |
| A practitioner that the child has said they have a good relationship with  |  |  |
| Parent(s)/Carer(s) are finding it difficult to cope and to provide support and supervision.  |  |  |
| Parent(s)/Carer(s)/family members who are a cause for concern because of historic or current issues including offending behaviour/criminality |  |  |
| Child’s siblings or other family members have been exploited  |  |  |
| Any information about threats to the child’s family  |  |  |
| Friends or associates of child’s family who are a cause for concern because of historic or current issues |  |  |
| Adults in the community who are a cause for concern because of historic or current issues |  |  |
| Adults online and/or who are part of a group, gang or organised network / who have been identified as a risk by the police |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |

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| **Peer Relationships** |
|  | **Further information if relevant**  | **Name(s) if known** |
| Child has age-appropriate friend(s) who they have a good relationship with  |  |  |
| Child has siblings/other children in the family that they have a good relationship with |  |  |
| Child attends positive activities/clubs/hobbies with other children |  |  |
| Child has siblings/other children in the family that practitioners have concerns about |  |  |
| Child has friend(s) that practitioners/parents have concerns about  |  |  |
| Child has no or very few friends and feels isolated  |  |  |
| Child is new to area and does not really know anyone their own age |  |  |
| Child or child’s peer group involved in anti-social and/or offending behaviour  |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |

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| **Online relationships/behaviours (including via Smart Phones/Mobile Phone communication/laptops and consoles)**  |
|  | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and media platforms if known**  |
| Child has age-appropriate contact with others online and accesses age-appropriate content |  |  |
| Concerns have been raised about contact the child is having online with other children and/or adults |  |  |
| Child is communicating online and/or is accessing online content in a way that causes concern  |  |  |
| Child is receiving and/or sharing and/or requesting nude images online |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |

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| **Where the child lives and spends time** |
| **Accommodation** | **Further information if relevant**  | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child is in stable accommodation, and they say they feel safe there. |  |  |
| Concerns about home conditions or suitability of accommodation  |  |  |
| If looked after, the child is not in a stable placement /has had frequent placement moves |  |  |
| Child is in temporary accommodation  |  |  |
| Adults or peers of concern are targeting place where child lives and /or making threats |  |  |
| Child is sofa surfing |  |  |
| Child is homeless  |  |  |
| Registered at multiple addresses |  |  |
| Pattern of street homelessness |  |  |
| Child found at address with other unrelated children  |  |  |
| Limited freedom of movement  |  |  |
| Child found with keys to unknown premises  |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |
| **Community and places they visit** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child is happy and settled in their community |  |  |
| Concerns that child is living somewhere isolated from peers, activities and support services |  |  |
| Concerns that the child is visiting places/spaces frequented by adults and peers of concern/ known for community safety concerns |  |  |
| Concerns that child is visiting addresses of concern to the police |  |  |
| Child has said they feel unsafe in their education or training setting or community |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |
| **Education** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child is happy and settled in school |  |  |
| Child has good attendance |  |  |
| Child is achieving key stages |  |  |
| Child is Elected Home Educated |  |  |
| Child has IEP/Statement of Educational Needs |  |  |
| Parents/carers are supportive and engage appropriately with education provision  |  |  |
| Child has low motivation and or poor concentration  |  |  |
| Non-attendance with no explanation (including non-certified by health professional where relevant) |  |  |
| Child regularly truants |  |  |
| Child has poor pro-social relationships and is being bullied |  |  |
| Child has difficulties with peer relationships at educational provision |  |  |
| Child is on a reduced timetable |  |  |
| Child is permanently excluded due to behavioural or other issues |  |  |
| NEET or at risk of NEET |  |  |
| Frequently moves schools without reasonable cause |  |  |
| Child missing from education |  |  |
| Child avoids school in order to stay safe |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken* |

**Section 2: Information about current safeguarding concerns**

**Section 2** of the Assessment Tool is an opportunity to gather in one place all the information about safeguarding concerns in respect of the child. Different types of abuse and exploitation are interrelated, and this is one of the reasons our response to children must be child focussed rather than issue based. Exploitation is complex and children will not always identify themselves as being a victim. Practitioners must consider the context in which the abuse and exploitation is occurring and should ensure they do not use victim blaming language when considering the child, their presentation and behaviours. No child can consent to being exploited. **Exploitation is Abuse.**

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| **Child’s physical, emotional, behavioural presentation** |
| **Sexual Abuse and Violence** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Have any of the concerns about sexual abuse and violence been identified about the child |  |  |
| Is there any information (substantiated or not) to suggest the child may have been sexually abused, assaulted or raped |  |  |
| Child has had drugs internally inserted into their rectum or vagina by themselves or others, sometimes known as ‘plugging’ / items used to carry drugs internally found  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest gang associated sexual violence e.g. initiation, child expected by gang to use sexual interest to entrap peers, threats of sexual violence  |  |  |
| Child has been a victim of physical violence and/or talks about fear of physical violence  |  |  |
| Child has been associating with peers known to carry knives or other weapons |  |  |
| **Physical signs** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child has bruising, unexplained injuries  |  |  |
| Child is concerned they may or do have sexually transmitted diseases /need for emergency contraception/ need for termination of pregnancy |  |  |
| Child frequently presents at A&E |  |  |
| **Emotional signs (include noticeable change in behaviour/presentation)** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child is withdrawn |  |  |
| Child has extreme mood changes |  |  |
| Child expresses anger/ aggressive outbursts |  |  |
| Child is suicidal and/or self-harms |  |  |
| **Material signs when there is no reasonable explanation for how they have attained or paid for these things.** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child has new/extra mobile phones/technological equipment  |  |  |
| Child has new clothing, footwear, cosmetics, accessories, jewellery etc  |  |  |
| Child regularly under the influence of alcohol or drugs |  |  |
| Child in possession of unexplained money |  |  |
| Child has been found in possession of quantities of drugs that are too large to be for personal use.  |  |  |
| **Behavioural signs** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| The child is secretive /some of the information they share about where they have been or who they have been with has regularly been found to be untrue |  |  |
| Child tell their stories with obvious errors, inconsistencies or a lack of reality. |  |  |
| Described as out of control, chaotic or as having risky behaviour by their family, carers or by practitioners |  |  |
| Concerns about the way in which the child uses their mobile phone or the internet |  |  |
| Child has stolen money or goods from parent/carers /other relatives |  |  |
| Child claims to have been in the UK for years but has very poor English /understanding of culture |  |  |
| **Personal ID**  | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| No passport or other means of identity |  |  |
| Unable or reluctant to give accommodation or other personal details |  |  |
| False documentation or genuine documentation that has been altered or fraudulently obtained; or the child claims that their details (name, date of birth) on the documentation is incorrect.  |  |  |
| **Registration/services**  | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child not registered with education  |  |  |
| Child not registered with GP |  |  |
| Child in unregistered private fostering  |  |  |
| **Employment**  | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Unusual hours /regular patterns of leaving or returning to home/placement which indicates probable working that has not been accounted for through legitimate employment  |  |  |
| Information to suggest labour exploitation/ must earn set amount of money a day |  |  |
| Information to suggest domestic exploitation /performs excessive chores and rarely leaves address  |  |  |
| Child is fatigued /has physical signs of possible labour exploitation or domestic servitude  |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken and record the child’s understanding of exploitation.* |

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| **Associates and Community (Practitioners MUST consider the Physical & Virtual World)** |
| **Adults in the child’s life** | **Further information if relevant**  | **Name(s) and details of locations if known**  |
| Have any adults of concern been identified in the child’s life/that the child is in contact with  |  |  |
| Any concerns that an online friendship has developed into an offline ‘relationship’ |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is in a controlling relationship with an adult. This could include a social relationship or a ‘romantic’ relationship  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that adult(s) in the child’s life may be claiming to have a legitimate connection to the child but that this is /may be untrue. |  |  |
| Accompanied by an adult who may not be the legal guardian and insists on remaining with the child at all times |  |  |
| Have any peers who practitioners have concerns about been identified in the child’s life/that the child is in contact with  |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is in a controlling relationship with a peer. This could include a social relationship or a ‘romantic’ relationship |  |  |
| Any information to suggest the child is in contact with a group, gang or organised network online or offline |  |  |
| Has the child been seen getting in or out of cars driven by unknown adults |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child is being groomed/coerced/bribed/threatened |  |  |
| Any information to suggest that the child has a debt bondage and if yes to who? (if known)  |  |  |
| **Community and places they visit** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Have any concerns about addresses/spaces/places the child visits been identified |  |  |
| Is there any information to suggest that the child is travelling to/has been to other locations e.g. out of their local area, region or Country Is there any information how they are travelling i.e. train and who they are travelling with? |  |  |
| Is there any information to suggest that the child has been receiving lots of visits at their accommodation or a meeting place in the community |  |  |
| **Movement of the child** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Being located in areas where they have no known connections  |  |  |
| Information that the child talks about /is familiar with places out of local area with no known connections to that place |  |  |
| **Movement of child from another country** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| No evidence that child has entered the country legally |  |  |
| Unable to confirm name or address of person meeting them on arrival in UK |  |  |
| Accompanying adult previously made multiple visa applications for other children / acted as the guarantor for other children’s visa applications |  |  |
| Journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken and record the child’s understanding of exploitation.* |

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| **Whereabouts of Child** |
| **Missing from home or care.** A missing person is: “*Anyone whose whereabouts cannot be established will be considered as missing until located and their wellbeing or otherwise confirmed*.” |
| **Supervision concerns** | **Further information if relevant**  | **Name(s) and details of locations if known**  |
| Child often not in the place or with the people they have told adults they are in or with |  |  |
| Child is staying out late/not returning home when they are supposed to |  |  |
| Child is absent from school regularly |  |  |
| **Concerns that child is going missing** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| Child goes missing during school day (whereabouts unknown)  |  |  |
| Child has gone missing (whereabouts unknown) |  |  |
| Child regularly goes missing for short periods (whereabouts unknown) |  |  |
| Child has gone missing for one or more long periods of time (whereabouts unknown) |  |  |
| **When the child is located** | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| The child was located in a place where they have family/social connections |  |  |
| The child was located in a place associated with community safety concerns |  |  |
| The child was located in another region or out of country |  |  |
| The child returned to the place where they live under the influence/with injuries or looking well cared for with no obvious explanation of how. |  |  |
| **After the most recent episode of going missing**  | **Further information if relevant** | **Name(s) and details of locations if known** |
| The child had a formal debrief/ return home interview following their latest episode of going missing  |  |  |
| The child shared information about where they were, who they were with and what happened as part of the formal debrief / return home interview  |  |  |
| The child spoke to a parent/carer, practitioner or advocate about where they were, who they were with and what happened  |  |  |
| Information shared by the child or others suggests that they were running away from a situation at home/where they live |  |  |
| Information shared by the child or others suggests that they are at risk of or being abused through exploitation (in person or virtually) |  |  |
| Any fresh concerns about the child’s physical or emotional wellbeing following a missing episode  |  |  |
| **Analysis/Comment** \**Please consider strength factors, risk factors, previous harm and actions already taken and record the child’s understanding of exploitation.* |

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| **Following the completion of the tool, in partnership with those involved, consider the risk in the context it is occurring and the strengths and protective factors.****Please record the following:**  |
| **Strengths**  | **Vulnerabilities/Needs**  | **Risks** | **Protective Factors** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Please draw on the information collated to consider the VOLT** |
| **Victim(s)** | **Offender(s)** | **Location(s)** | **Themes** |
|  |  |  |  |

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| **Appendix 1** |
| **This indicator of harm and vulnerability tool is not an exhaustive list and nor does it, or could it, cover every eventuality. Those using this tool are reminded of the complexity, unpredictability and uncertainty at play in decision-making. Clear analysis should be made, drawn upon evidence in the context of which harm has or may occur, with differentiation between fact and professional opinion.** |
|  | **Low** | **Medium**  | **High** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Family and Environment**  | * Good family relationships
* Secure and trusted relationship with family
* Family have established routines and boundaries that are age and developmentally
* Family have an appropriate understanding and knowledge of the child’s whereabouts
* Family has positive relationship and appropriate support from others
* Family members are in good physical and mental heath
* Family home is a safe environment
* Family and associates are positive role models
* Family feel accepted by the community
* Family access community facilities when required
* Family feel safe in the local community
 | * Family relationships are strained
* Family lack understanding, tolerance or warmth toward the child
* Family routine and boundaries is not conducive to child’s needs
* Family are not sure about the child’s whereabouts and are inconsistent in reporting this to professionals
* Family report a change of behaviour/reduced contact with child
* Household members with disability or significant health problems
* Family live in inadequate housing i.e. temporary/overcrowding/substantially cluttered
* Family and/or associates are known offenders
* Family are socially or physically isolated
* Family experiencing harassment, discrimination or are victims of crime.
 | * Suspected abuse in family
* Child seeks belonging/affection in unsafe places as they do not get this at home
* Little or no communication between the child and family
* Lack of warmth/understanding, attachment/trust
* Child does not feel wanted or does not feel like they belong in their family/home
* Family do not implement age-appropriate boundaries or routines
* Family do not report missing episodes
* Family report significant change of behaviour/minimal contact with child
* Drug taking, prostitution and illegal activities by a person in the child’s family home that significantly impacts on the child
* Child/young person living with unstable living arrangements outside of the immediate family
* Family is homeless
* Family and/or associates are associated with gang members/criminal activity/organised crime that suggests child exploitation is a possibility
* Family feel detached from the community
* Family feel unsafe within the community
* Suspected rape of a child – perpetrated by a family member or someone connected to the family
 |
| **Social and neighbourhood**  | * Knowledge about the effects of crime and anti-social behaviour
* Age-appropriate independent living skills
* Child is exposed toa range of ideas and opportunities to give them choices about their lives
* Child feel safe
* Family context is supportive of social development
 | * Family and child experience barriers to accessing community and economic resources
* Family and child exposed to crime and violence through living in their neighbourhood
* Child exposed to pro-offending behaviour and attitudes within local community
* Coming to notice of police
* High levels of anti-social behaviour/criminality in the environment
* Child is not appropriately supervised in the home or community
* Child not exposed to new/stimulating experience
* Being a victim of crime
* Child exposed to the selling or use of illegal substances
* Child is aware of others carrying weapons and feels compelled to do so themselves
* Family experiencing harassment, discrimination or are victims of crime
* Child feels unsafe to go into neighbourhood spaces beyond their immediate environment
 | * Family and child exposed to high levels of physical violence and highly intrusive behaviours through living in their environment
* Family and child experience high levels of social exclusion (poverty, lack of access to community resources)
* Child is begging/scavenging for food/money
* Teenage parent under 16
* Suspected rape of a child – perpetrated by another child or adult not connected to the family
 |
| **Social Media and Online use** | * Child or young person spending long periods of time in talking to others through social media and apps but sites known to parents and are deemed age appropriate.
* Child is willing to share/show parents online or phone contacts.
* Parents know the contacts i.e., school friend.
* Parents practice safe digital activity within their home i.e., Parental locks.
* Child is aware of safe online behaviour and knows who to contact if they experience digital harm
* Child has safe, healthy and age-appropriate digital activity
 | * Child goes online during the night.
* Concerns the child is having a ‘online’ relationship.
* Unexplained use of social networking, shared gaming sites and/or receiving rewards or credits.
* Being secretive, using mobile phone for accessing websites.
* Child shows unwillingness to share/show online or phone contacts.
* Absence of appropriate concern to implement parental safeguards in relation to their CYP’s harmful digital activity.
 | * Accessing online apps and sites beyond stages of development i.e., pornography
* Accessing online sites and apps that give significant cause for concern regards child’s cultural/religious belief values i.e., extremist propaganda
* Accessing online dating ‘hook up’ apps and sites
* Concern that child’s online friendship has developed into an offline relationship
* Concerns that inappropriate images/content are being circulated via the internet/phone/mobile media
* Concern that the child is being coerced/bribed/threatened to provide sexually explicit images/engage in inappropriate online activity
* Concern that the child/young person is being paid for sexual acts online.
* Child has multiple devices/phones/user accounts
 |
| **Sexual Health, Violence****and Relationships** | * No known reported incidents of the child being a victim of violence or witnessing domestic abuse (including peer relationships) although some professional concerns.
* Reduced contact with family/friends which raises a concern.
* Child has an understanding of safe sexual relationships and activity commensurate with age and are developmentally typical.
* Child has safe space to express their sexual orientation/identity and are supported to understand and/or express this.
* Child is sexually active and in an equal consensual relationship with peer.
* Child does not feel pressures, they feel they can say ‘No’ and is following safe sex advice.
* Possible evidence of having/had a sexually transmitted disease.
* If sexually active and age appropriate which is in line with their mental capacity to make safe decisions, the child is engaging in consensual sex and is practising safe sex
 | * Concerns the child has been/is being exposed to violence in the home and/or from others.
* Abusive (including coercion and control) significant relationship.
* Physical symptoms of physical/sexual assault
* Disclosure of physical/sexual assault followed by withdrawing allegation.
* Sudden change in social group, particularly where this involves significant change in age of friends and/or size of group.
* Child has an inappropriate and/or problematic understanding of safe sexual relationships and activity.
* Recurring or more than one STI
* Concerns about untreated STI’s
* Miscarriage(s), termination(s)/pregnancy
* Child is attending health services for sexually transmitted infections or unwanted pregnancies and there are concerns that they are engaging in sexual relations due to peer pressure
* Child unsure about sexual orientation, sexual identity, or unable to disclose sexual orientation and/or identity to their family.
* Child is sexually active, but does not practice safe sex and is not accessing/willing to access support from any sexual health service
* Child is exposed to violence and trauma within their peer associations
 | * Significant relationship is assessed to involve abuse/violence and/or is controlling.
* Peers/older friends/partners/adults are violent toward the child.
* Child disengaged from previous support networks.
* Physical injuries, external/internal/disclosure of physical/sexual assault/concealment of drugs
* Disclosure of physical/sexual assault followed by withdrawal of allegation.
* Evidence of coercion and control
* Abduction/forced imprisonment.
* Carrying weapons (including to feel safe)
* Child has been a victim of a knife or gun related injury
* Child has harmful understanding of safe sexual relationships and activity.
* Recurring or multiple STI’s
* Concerns about untreated STI’s
* Miscarriage(s), termination(s)/pregnancy
* Physical symptoms suggestive of sexual assault
* Child unsure about sexual orientation, sexual identity, or unable to disclose sexual orientation and/or identity to their family.
* Child presents as feeling pressured to have sex or to perform sexual acts in exchange for status /protection, possessions, substances, or affection.
* Child is in a sexual relationship with an adult/there is a wide age gap.
* Child is under 13 and has been raped (statutory)/sexually assaulted.
* Sex is non-consensual child is experiencing violence or coercion with sex or are unable to consent due to intoxication /substance misuse.
* Child/young person is made to watch sexual acts being performed on others.
* Child with learning or physical disability - impairment-related factors, including capacity to consent to sexual activity.
* Association with gang/organised crime members that suggest child exploitation is a possibility.
* Young person has been victim of knife or gun-related injury
* Child being groomed into violent extremism
* Child involved in group sexual offence
* Serious physical/sexual violence (including threats) towards others
* Child involved with criminal justice system.
* Child in secure remand
 |
| **Health** **and Emotional Wellbeing** **of Child**  | * Is healthy and well
* Development is age appropriate and had all immunisations
* Has a healthy diet and appears well nourished
* Is registered with GP and basic services such as dentist, optician
* Achieving key development stages
* Knowledge about the effects of crime and anti-social behaviour
* Can mange own treatment for any condition e.g. asthma and take part in everyday life
* Child’s physical needs are adequately provided for
* Child has good mental and psychological wellbeing
* Good quality attachments and familial relationships
* Child is able to access support/ needs are met by family and/or professionals.
 | * Long term condition or serious illness
* Mild level of disability requiring additional support to be maintained at universal setting
* Developmental delay
* Child is significantly delayed in speech/expressive communication
* Frequent illness/accidents
* Significantly under/overweight
* Multiple attendances at A&E or acute health care settings
* Missed appointments – routine and non-routine
* Attendance at A&E due to injuries or risks experienced in extra familial settings
* Low self-esteem, withdrawn, anxious, stress or low in mood
* Challenging behaviour that parents find difficult to manage
* Non-life-threatening self-harm
* Bullying or being bulled
* Anxiety, low level depression or other difficult feelings
* Child appears to participate in activity which causes harm to self or others which suggests they have a limited range of behaviour choices available to them
* Relationship difficulties with family, peers or professionals e.g. teachers
* Child is significantly delayed in speech/expressive communication
* Child is hyper vigilant or is experiencing effects of trauma
* Child has victim blaming views
* Anti-social behaviour and low-level offending behaviour
* Targeted services in place, support accessed, and child and parent engage
* Learning disability which is exploited by other leading to risk of harm
* Child is displaying extremist views and behaviour’s
* Child is undertaking activities that evidence gang involvement i.e. videos
* Child normalises harm
* Child carries weapons
* Child has caring responsibilities that impact on behaviour/development
* Child is being pressured to become gang involved
 | * Long term condition or serious illness that is not being managed
* Complex disability that cannot be maintained without additional support
* Complex mental health and learning disabilities issues requiring long term or specialist interventions and treatment
* Severe impairment of functioning associated with mental health disorders (e.g. severe anxiety, severe OCD, Phobic, panic disorders, ADHD, ASD, Tourettes syndrome)
* Child is suffering as a result of inadequate access to primary/secondary healthcare
* Injuries are not consistent with explanations given
* Serious concerns about fabricated/induced illness
* Evidence of physical, emotional or sexual harm or neglect perpetrated by parents or adults connected to the family
* Child/young person has experienced or is at risk of experiencing Female Genital Mutilation
* Evidence of physical, emotional or sexual harm/ exploitation or neglect

perpetrated by peers or adults in the community (not connected to the family)* Disclosure of significant harm from child/young person which is caused by and/or takes place in an extra-familial context
* Expression of suicidal thoughts
* Severe or life-threatening mental health conditions (e.g. psychosis, risk of suicide or severe self-harm, severe depressive episode, anorexia nervosa)
* Moderate to severe depression
* Child/young person appears to participate in activity which causes imminent risk of harm to themselves or others and which suggest they have a limited range of behaviour choices available to them
* Chronic low self-esteem/self confidence
* Mental health problems including any undiagnosed
* Serious Self harm
* Suicidal ideation with committed plans
* Previous attempts at Suicide (unintentional and/or intentional)
* Serious physical/sexual violence (including threats) towards others
* Sporadically accessing support and appointments are not kept
* Trauma responses regularly observed and clear impact on wellbeing and behaviour of child
* Serious offending behaviour
* Child involved with criminal justice system
* Child in secure remand
* Child in custody with no family support or involvement
* Child in hospital setting continuously for 3 months
* Conduct difficulties and those which co-exist with other disorders where specific interventions may influence outcome, including children and young people who present a forensic risk
 |
| **Education****Training****Employment** | * Good attendance in school, training, employment
* Planned progression beyond statutory school age
* Achieving key stages
* No barrier to learning
* Some truanting but limited concerns
* Mainly positive friendships in school, training, employment
* Child has a trusted adult supporting them in school, training, employment.
* Child has parents/carers/trusted adult who encourages them to attend/engage in education.
 | * Full time education/training/employment but irregular/poor attendance.
* Poor concentration
* Low motivation
* Regular truanting
* Whereabouts during school hours are not known.
* Attendance at pupil referral unit/alternative provision
* Regular breakdown of school training placements due to behavioural problems
* Sudden, noticeable change in attendance, performance, or behaviour.
* Difficulties with peer relationships at their educational establishment
* Child is being pressured to become gang involved via peers linked to educational establishment
* Child is being bullied within their educational establishment
* Child experiences levels of academic pressure which places them under stress.
* Suspected of carrying weapons/drugs on school site
* Illegal employment
* Educated at home with engagement from family but child is not developing appropriately Colludes with or condones failure to attend school
* Placing CYP under excessive pressure to achieve academically.
 | * Statement of special educational needs/education health and care plan
* Child who is being looked after in private fostering arrangements
* Child missing from education
* Child avoids school to in order to stay safe
* Frequent suspensions/exclusions due to behavioural or other issues.
* Permanently excluded.
* Not in education, employment or training
* Shows no interest or engagement in accessing educational or training opportunities.
* Has carried /concealed weapons/drugs on school site.
* Whereabouts are often unknown
* No parental support for education
* Professional concerns about the safety and /poor wellbeing of child whose family has elected home education
* Friendships/peers either within or outside education, employment, training setting are with others at risk of exploitation.
* Child does not have a trusted adult supporting them with education.
* Child’s cultural, religious beliefs and values cause significant concern.
* Child groomed into sexual or criminal exploitation as either victim or instigator at school/ through school-based networks
* Child/young person exposed to physical or sexual violence at school or through school-based networks
* School refusal where mental health disorder plays a significant role.
 |
| **Parent/Parenting**  | * Child’s emotional and physical needs are being met in an appropriate way
* Consistent parenting providing appropriate guidance and boundaries
* Childs physical needs are adequately provided for
* Parenting generally demonstrates praise, emotional warmth and encouragement
* Positive relationship including between separated parents
* Parents aware of extra familial risks in community and are confident to raise concerns at early stage
* Parents are connected to other parents and know who to contact to ensure appropriate supervision
* Parents appreciate limited choice and pressure that extra familial harm places on a child and engages in protective support rather than blaming them for any harm taking place
* Parents practice safe digital activity within the home i.e., parental locks
 | * Parents miss appointments with health and education provision
* Mental and/or physical health needs or learning difficulties that can affect care of the child
* Postnatal depression
* Excessive anxiety regarding child/young person’s health
* Colludes with or condones failure to attend school
* Inconsistent or harsh parenting
* Lack of consistent boundaries, supervision and guidance
* Relationship difficulties that impinge on child/young person
* Substance and or alcohol
* misuse affecting parenting
* Criminal or anti-social behaviour in family context
* Learning difficulties that affect parenting/caring
* Parent/carer is begging for

food/money* Parent/carer avoiding or refusing to engage with professionals where a concern has been raised
* Parent/carer does not encourage development of child/young person’s independence
* Parents/carers fail to understand the physical, social and spiritual needs of child/young person at specific ages or stages
* Parents/carers do not take responsibility for issues which are beyond a child/young person’s developmental maturity
* Placing child/young person under excessive pressure to achieve academically
* Teenage parent under 18
* Parent considers child/ young person to be to blame for extra-familial harm (i.e. sexual or criminal exploitation)
* Absence of appropriate concern to implement parental safeguards in relation to their child/young person’s harmful digital activity
* Unable to give a picture of child/young person’s peer group
 | * Drug or alcohol abuse seriously affecting the ability of parent/carer to function
* Child rejected from home
* Parental inability to judge dangerous situations
* Parental inability to protect child from harm
* Emotional neglect where earlier interventions have failed to be effective
* Adult mental health significantly impacting on the care of the child
* Parent has serious mental health condition and child is subject of parent delusion
* Parent/carer with significant learning disability seriously affecting ability to parent
* Any parent/carer who attempts suicide or self-harm
* Parent causing significant harm to child
* Parent blames child for the harm they experience beyond/outside home
* Parent seems to collude with extra familial harm i.e. facilitating/supporting harmful peer activity through provision of resources
 |
| **Accommodation** | * Child is generally satisfied with accommodation.
* Some concerns about longer term stability of placement
* Some concerns about relationship with others in placement
* Meets most of the child’s needs
 | * Unstable, unsupported, unsuitable accommodation
* Temporary/overcrowded housing
* Hostel/refuge with adult tenants
* The child is unhappy with their accommodation and this impacts on their risk of exploitation.
 | * Frequent placement changes
* Unstable, unsupported, unsuitable accommodation
* Temporary/overcrowded housing
* Hostel/refuge with adult tenants
* Concerns about the location
* The child is unhappy with their accommodation and often stays elsewhere.
* Homeless or sofa surfing
* Living away from supportive networks
* Care experienced child and/or care leaver
* The child/young person is in possession of keys/cards to unknown premises
* The child/young person appears unfamiliar with their neighbourhood/ doesn’t know home address
* Child in secure remand
 |
| **Peers**  | * Development stimulated though play and/or appropriate peer group interaction
* Child has socially acceptable, consensual and reciprocal relationships
* Good quality relationships with peers
* Supportive and age-appropriate friends
* Child is known to have a positive peer group.
* Child has at least one trusting relationship within peer network
* Peer group is mostly known to parents/carers.
* Child mostly engages in age-appropriate activities with peers in the community.
* Peers are not engaged in anti-social behaviour/criminal activity.
* Peers are supportive of child’s cultural/religious and identity needs.
* The child has positive friendships but reported reduced contact with family /friends which is of concern and /or there is an unexplained change in attitude from the child /young person regarding the relationship, which raises some concerns.
 | * Parents/carers reported reduced contact with family / positive friends which is of concern and /or there is an unexplained change in attitude from the child /young person regarding the relationship, which raises some concerns.
* Child is known to be easily influenced by peer group.
* Peers are known to be engaged in anti-social behaviour, low level offending behaviour.
* Peers are known to be engaged in substance use (including alcohol)
* Child frequently uses/purchases substances with their peer group
* Peers are known to truant/be excluded from school and/or NEET
* Sudden changes in social group, particularly where this involves significant change in the age of friends and/or size of group.
* Peers are not engaged in age-appropriate community activities.
* Peers are known to professionals due to concerns about possibly exploitation concerns.
* Child is becoming more secretive about peer group
* Child is a follower
* Difficulties with peer relationships
 | * Child is socially isolated from peers
* Child is encouraged by peers to engage in gang initiation behaviour/activity
* Parents do not know the peer group.
* The child refuses to say who their peers are and is secretive.
* Child discloses they are storing items for peers i.e. drugs/money/phones
* The peers are known to be engaged in serious offending behaviour.
* Peers are known to be engaged in significant and problematic substance use.
* Peers are suspected of being affiliated to gang/organised crime groups.
* Peers are assessed to be at risk of exploitation.
* Peers are violent/coercive and/or controlling.
* Peers do not support the child’s cultural/religious beliefs or identity.
* Peers are NEET and discourage the child from attending school.
* Peers are known to carry weapons.
* Child states they have a drug debt to a peer.
* Child involved with criminal justice system
* Severe and/or complex relationship difficulties outside the home (i.e. peer group) leading to significant impairment of functioning and wellbeing
* Severe and/or complex relationship difficulties outside the home (i.e.

peer group) leading to significant impairment of functioning and well-being |
| **Substance Use** | * Mild use of substances (including alcohol), but concerns relate to behaviours which fall within normal experimental behaviour.
* Child is generally open about substance use and engages in discussion and support in respect of their mild use of substances
 | * Evidence of regular substance (including alcohol) use.
* Concerns for use/dependency and change/increase of use
* Some concerns regarding how substance use if being funding.
* Concerns regarding how substances are being accessed.
* Child is ambivalent about disclosing use.
* Child accesses support but active engagement is problematic
 | * Evidence of heavy/dependant/worrying substance use (including alcohol)
* Chronic dependency of highly addictive substances (including nicotine/vaping)
* Increased concerns for use/dependency and funding of supply usage.
* Found in possession of Class A drugs
* Found in possession of cannabis more than once.
* Found in possession of high quantities of drugs/drug paraphernalia (i.e. scales/wraps etc) and large sums of monies
* Suspected of the movement and selling of drugs and this may be linked to their own drug use i.e., as part of exploitation/grooming process
* Support around substance use (including alcohol) is having no impact
 |
| **Adult Associates**  | * Accessing one or more social networking sites and may be ‘friends’ with several unknown people, but there are limited concerns.
* Associating with unknown adults and/or other children known to be at risk of exploitation
* Living in a neighbourhood associated with criminal activity/organised crime
 | * Associating with unknown adults and/or other exploited children
* Extensive use of phone (particularly late at night and secret use)
* In possession of more than one mobile phone.
* Has access to premises not known to parents/carers.
* Reports from reliable sources, suggesting involvement in exploitation.
* Reported to have been in areas where there are concerns related to exploitation.
* Adult is subject to a CAWN
 | * Evidence of association/relationships with adults/peers, believed or known to be involved in grooming/exploitation
* Willing to meet up with people they have met online
* Seen and or picked up by adults in unknown vehicles
* Seen or picked up in locations where exploitation is known to take place
* Child has no or little recognition of abusive/exploitative behaviour
* Parent/Carer has no or little recognition of abusive/exploitative behaviour
* Adult is subject to a CAWN
* Adult associates are known to professional network due to links with organised crime
 |
| **Rewards** | * Some unaccounted-for monies and / or goods (new clothes, make–up, mobile top-ups, etc). and ability to fund nontangible goods.
 | * Concerns about unaccounted for monies and/or goods, (new clothes, make –up, jewellery and mobile phones, mobile phone top –ups etc.)
* Concerns regarding the funding of misuse of drugs /alcohol /use of tobacco through unknown sources.
* Some concerns about how the child / young person funds other items (fast food, taxi fares, etc.).
 | * Significant concerns regarding unaccounted for monies and / or goods, especially jewellery, items of clothing and mobile phones, which the child / young person is unable to provide explanation.
* Has use of more than one mobile
* Significant concerns about who / how the child / young person funds items such as fast food, taxi fares, alcohol and substance use, cigarettes, entry into clubs, trips away from home, etc
* Carers shows no understanding of why this is a concern/suspected that carer encourages chid to obtain money/possessions despite the risks around this having been explained to them
 |
| **Missing** | * Child often comes homes late.
* Incidents of unauthorised absence without permission and returning late
* Whereabout at times are unknown
 | * Often staying our late/overnight without permission/explanation
* Whereabout are often unknown, and the child is secretive about whereabouts.
* Repeated episodes of running away/going missing/ from home/placement (including short periods)
* Regular breakdown of placements due to behavioural problems
* The child was found in a place associated with community safety issues
 | * Frequently reported missing due to extensive and/or frequent periods of missing/running away from home/placement.
* Whereabouts are often unknown.
* Missing with others known to be at risk of exploitation
* The child returned home/placement looking well cared for/not hungry despite having no known base
* The child returned under the influence and/or with injuries
* Regular breakdowns of placement due to behavioural problems
* Pattern of street homelessness
* Regular episodes of missing combined with temporary/unsuitable and/or unstable care arrangements
* The child is found in another county and/or country with no known connections and/or means of transport
* Missing or trafficked child/young person primarily due to ‘push’ factors

which come from the home environment* Missing or trafficked child/young person primarily due to ‘push’ factors

which come from the home environment* Child/young person appears to have been trafficked
 |