

# WYCHAVON

*Information on Child Sexual Exploitation*



**NSPCC**

 **WYCHAVON  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
*good services, good value*

# What is child sexual exploitation?

The grooming and sexual exploitation of young people is an often hidden form of child sexual abuse and can take many different forms, occur in a wide range of settings and can be carried out by individuals, by street gangs or by groups.

The impact of child sexual exploitation can be devastating leaving some young people with serious long-term emotional and physical effects.

The victim will be tricked into believing they are in a loving relationship.

CSE can take place in many forms, whether through a seemingly consensual relationship, or a young person being forced to have sex in return for some kind of payment, such as drugs, money, gifts or even protection and affection.

It involves perpetrators grooming their victims in various ways to gain their trust before emotionally and sexually abusing them for their own gain, this is done:

- in person
- via mobiles
- online

Keeping children and young people safe online is a continual challenge.



## Our role as a council

- It is not our job to establish whether or not abuse has/is taking place
- It is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns we have over the welfare of children or adults at risk.

This duty extends to :

- The identification of abuse
- Poor practice by internal members/staff or
- Anyone working on behalf of/delivering or representing the council
- As well as allegations brought to the attention of the council by a member of the public

## Things you may notice:

**withdrawn** suddenly behaves differently **anxious**  
**clingy** **depressed** **aggressive** **problems** **sleeping**  
**eating disorders** **wets the bed** **soils clothes**  
**takes risks** **misses school** **obsessive** **behaviour**  
**changes in eating habits** **nightmares** **drugs**  
**alcohol** **self harm** **thoughts about suicide**



Sexual exploitation can be very difficult to identify.  
Warning signs can easily be mistake for 'normal'  
teenage behaviour.

Young people who are sexually exploited may:

- be involved in abusive relationships, intimidated and fearful of certain people or situations
- hang out with groups of older people, or antisocial groups, or with other vulnerable peers
- associate with other young people involved in sexual exploitation
- get involved in gangs, gang fights, gang membership
- have older boyfriends or girlfriends
- spend time at places of concern, such as hotels or known brothels
- not know where they are, because they have been moved around the country
- go missing from home, care or education.

# If you think a child is in immediate danger:

**Don't delay - call the police on 999, or call the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000 straight away.**

If you're worried about a child, but unsure:

**Contact the NSPCC helpline to speak to one of their trained counsellors on 0800 800 5000.**

For more information or to talk through anything in this leaflet, please use the contacts below:

<b>Jem Teal</b>	Community Development Manager	<b>01386 565235</b>
<b>Phil Merrick</b>	Head of Community Services	<b>01386 565588</b>

## Safeguarding Contacts for Worcestershire County Council:

### Children Services

Phone: 01905 768054  
General Number: 0845 607 2000  
Out of Hours Number: 01905 768020  
Email: [socialcare@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:socialcare@worcestershire.gov.uk)

### Adult Services

Phone: 01905 768053 or  
General Number: 0845 607 2000  
Adult Protection Team for advice: 01905 822613/4  
Email: [socialcare@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:socialcare@worcestershire.gov.uk)

### Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO)

Phone: 01905 752800  
Email: [WSCBtraining@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:WSCBtraining@worcestershire.gov.uk)  
Fax: 01905 752836