

**North Ayrshire Child Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool**

This screening tool has been developed by a multi-agency child sexual exploitation working group. It is based on existing best practice from a range of organisations such as Barnardos and utilises our learning from Operation Dash.

It is intended to be used by any member of staff who either has concerns about a child or young person’s behaviour and would like to screen for indicators of sexual exploitation; or by a staff member who already has concerns that a child or young person may be vulnerable to sexual exploitation and would like to undertake some initial assessment.

The screening tool includes a scoring system that can be used to guide next steps in terms of further assessment. However, it is important that those using this screening tool continue to apply professional judgement and do not rely solely on the scoring system to guide their decision-making.

If you do not have sufficient information to complete this tool, consider completing jointly with a colleague from another service who knows the child or young person.

**SECTION ONE: VULNERABILITIES**

Historical Vulnerabilities – score 1 for each

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Previous history of physical or emotional neglect by parent/carer/family member |  |
|  |  |
| Victim of sexual abuse or sexual assault |  |
|  |  |
| Breakdown of family relationships |  |
|  |  |
| History of problematic substance misuse within the family |  |
|  |  |
| Physical abuse by parent/carer/family member |  |
|  |  |
| Low self-esteem |  |
|  |  |
| Family history of domestic abuse |  |
|  |  |
| Family history of mental health difficulties |  |
|  |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Historical Vulnerabilities** | **Total Score** |  | | |

Current Vulnerabilities – score 1 for each that is present at current time

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unsuitable accommodation / potential of placement breakdown |  |
|  |  |
| Isolated From peers/social networks |  |
|  |  |
| Lack of relationship with a positive or nurturing adult |  |
|  |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Current Vulnerability** | **Total Score** |  | | |

**SECTION TWO: RISK INDICATORS**

Risk Factors - score 1 for each that is present at current time or within past 6 months

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Returning home after agreed timescale / curfew |  |
|  |  |
| Concerning use of mobile or internet |  |
|  |  |
| School exclusion / truancy / missing work placement |  |
|  |  |
| Disclosure of physical or sexual assault (including any that are retracted) |  |
|  |  |
| Sexually transmitted infections |  |
|  |  |
| Poor self-image |  |
|  |  |
| Self-harm or other indicators of despair or distress |  |
|  |  |
| Aggressive or challenging behaviour |  |
|  |  |
| Associating with unknown adults or multiple callers |  |
|  |  |
| Inappropriate sexual behaviours (including multiple partners) |  |
|  |  |
| Association with other young people at risk of, or involved in sexual exploitation / assaults |  |
|  |  |
| Reduced contact with family and friends and other support networks / services. |  |
|  |  |
| Drug and/or alcohol use |  |
|  |  |
| Eating disorders |  |
|  |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Risk Factor Score** | **Total Score** |  | | |

Significant Factors - Score 5 for each that is present at current time or within past 6 months, score 1 if present within past year

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | |  |
| Periods of going missing overnight or longer | |  |
|  | |  |
| In a relationship with older boyfriend/girlfriend or controlling adult | |  |
|  | |  |
| Indicators of physical abuse including unexplained physical injury | |  |
|  | |  |
| Emotionally abused by controlling adult | |  |
|  | |  |
| Entering or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults or known CSE adults | |  |
|  | |  |
| Has money or items they cannot account for | |  |
|  | |  |
| Frequenting areas where there is concern regarding sexual activity or found in the house of older adults with no reasonable explanation | |  |
|  | |  |
| Children under 13 years of age seeking sexual health advice | |  |
|  | |  |
| **Significant Factors Score** |  | |

Collated Scores:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Historical Vulnerabilities |  |
| Current Vulnerabilities |  |
| Risk Factors |  |
| Significant Factors |  |
| Total Score |  |

**NOTE:** Remember to apply your professional judgement when considering the collated score and the recommended next steps.

**Recommended Next Steps**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 0 - 5 | Not at Risk | Child/young person should be educated on how to keep themselves safe by their caregivers and universal services. |
| 6 - 15 | Mild Risk | Child/young person may require specific individual or group work to raise awareness of the risks and strategies to keep themselves safe.  Case should be carefully monitored by named person / lead professional in order to identify any escalation of risk. |
| 15 - 25 | Moderate Risk | Multi Agency Assessment required.  Appropriate Multi Agency Forum required to consider assessment (Eg, Vulnerable Young Persons Meeting).  Child’s Plan and any relevant safety plans should be established /reviewed to protect child/young person.  Direct work and resources should be identified for the child/young person.  Key staff should be informed of potential risks and how to report or raise concerns timeously.  Agreement by multi agency team on review process |
| 25+ | Significant Risk | Multi Agency Assessment required.  Appropriate Multi Agency Forum required to consider assessment (Eg, Vulnerable Young Persons Meeting)  Consideration should be given to legal powers available to protect the child/young person.  Consideration should be given to legal powers available to partners to disrupt pattern of CSE.  Identiffication of other young people who potentially could be victims.  Child’s Plan and any relevant safety plans should be established / reviewed to protect child/young person.  Direct work and resources should be identified for the child/young person  Key staff should be informed of potential riaks and how to report or raise concerns timeously.  Review process established. |