

WARNING SIGNS AND VULNERABILITIES FOR CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Warning signs and behaviours

- Missing from home or care.
- Physical injuries.
- Involvement in offending
- Repeat sexually-transmitted infections, pregnancy and terminations
- Absent from school.
- Change in physical appearance.
- Evidence of sexual bullying.
- Vulnerability via the internet and/or social networking
- Estranged from their family.
- Receipt of gifts from unknown sources.
- Recruiting others into exploitative solutions.
- Poor mental health/Self-harm.
- Thoughts of or attempts at suicide.

CSE Vulnerabilities include:

- Chaotic/dysfunctional household.
- Parental substance use, mental health issues and criminality.
- Domestic abuse and/or neglect.
- History of abuse - familial sexual abuse, risk of forced marriage, risk of 'honour'-based abuse, physical and emotional abuse.
- Recent bereavement or loss.
- CSE Gang association.
- Friends/association with sexually exploited young people e.g.school.
- Learning disabilities.
- Unsure about their sexual orientation / family unaware.
- Homelessness.
- Lacking friends from the same age group.
- Living in a gang neighbourhood.
- Living in residential care.
- Living in hostel, bed and breakfast or a foyer.
- Low self-esteem or self-confidence.
- Young carer.

