



Oakwood Community School

Sexual Exploitation/Child Trafficking Policy

Written and reviewed by	Kate Tuttle	Date	08/12/2021
Headteacher review	Kate Stevens	Date	December 2021
Proprietary board review		Date	December 2021
Next Review	December 2023		

Sexual Exploitation

Oakwood school Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy and Procedure and the E-safety policy should be read and followed in conjunction with this policy

Definition

The sexual exploitation of children and young people is defined as ‘illegal activity by people who have power over young people and use it to sexually abuse them’. There are a wide range of activities that can be included in this illegal activity which includes the prostitution of young people, demanding of sex for attention or emotional support, the promise of, or the giving of, presents, money, board and lodgings etc. in return for inappropriate sexual activity.

Child Trafficking

Child trafficking can also include coercion into crime and involvement in labour exploitation, cannabis cultivation, forced marriage, acting as a drugs couriers, enticing other young people into the ring etc.

Police statistics show that the problem is getting worse and that the age ranges of the children involved are getting lower.

Recognition

Oakwood Community School is committed to identifying risk and keeping children and young people safe from sexual exploitation and abuse through prostitution.

The following indicators may be a sign of sexual exploitation. Has the young person been displaying any of the following behaviours:

- staying out for longer periods than normal and staying out overnight
- often missing from school
- obtaining possessions for which they have no explanations, for example: money, mobile phones, clothes, bikes, jewellery etc.
- relationships with young adults or older adults that are inappropriate
- concerns that they could be using or carrying drugs
- excessive and regular use of alcohol
- an unexpected change in their mood or behaviour
- losing interest in friends of their own age
- forming friendships with older peers or adults outside the school
- secretive about where they go and who they are with or secretive with phone use.

Any member of staff suspecting that a young person is being exploited by organised gangs or individuals will immediately:

- ensure the immediate safety of the young person concerned.
- inform the Head Teacher and the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- keep an accurate record of the reasons and circumstances causing the concern

The Head Teacher's will:

- ensure that adequate immediate safeguards are put in place.
- consult with the Local Authority Safeguarding Board and the designated Police CAIU.
- inform the young person's Social Worker or duty team (out of hours).
- keep accurate records and supply agencies with reports records etc.
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Supplementary Reading/ Practice Guidance

[Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation \(DCSF 2009\)](#)

[Safeguarding Children in whom Illness is Fabricated or Induced \(DCSF 2008\)](#)

[Safeguarding Children who may have been Trafficked \(DfE 2011\)](#)

[Safeguarding Disabled Children \(DCSF 2009\)](#)

[Safeguarding Children from Abuse Linked to a belief in Spirit Possession \(DCSF 2007\)](#)

[Safeguarding children and young people who may be affected by gang activity \(DCSF 2010\)](#)

[Handling cases of forced marriage \(HM Government 2009\)](#)

Keeping Children Safe in Education, DfE 2015

Working Together to Safeguard Children, and revisions, 2013 & 2015

NSPCC National Child Trafficking Advice and Information Line (CTAIL)

CTAIL is a specialist service providing information and advice to any professional working with children or young people who may have been trafficked into the UK

How to contact CTAIL:

If you are a professional and you think a child may have been trafficked call CTAIL on: 0800 107 7057

(Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm) or email ctail@nspcc.org.uk