



**ARDEN**

# Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

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- A form of sexual abuse
- When child or young person is manipulated or forced into taking part in a sexual act.
- This could be as part of a seemingly consensual relationship or in return for attention
  - Affection
  - Money
  - Drugs
  - Alcohol
  - Somewhere to stay.

*We know from national data, that whilst most young people who are being sexually exploited are aged between 13 and 15, some are considerably younger than this.*

# A real concern

- Jan 2016 to March 2016, 884 young people were identified as at risk of CSE in the West Midlands.
- The top ways of preventing CSE are education in schools and providing parents with support and information.

CSE does not respect boundaries, just because you do not see it does not mean it does not happen.

# The abuser

- Befriends the child
  - Gains their trust
  - Makes them feel they are in a loving relationship or friendship
  - Distances them from family & friends
  - Takes total control over them
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- The young person probably won't recognise that they are being abused. At times their initial introduction may be through a friend or someone of their own age.

# Indicators of Concern

- Regularly missing from school or not taking part in education
- Going missing for periods of time / regularly coming home late
- Associating with other young people being sexually exploited
- Older boyfriends / girlfriends
- Appearing with unexplained gifts or possessions
- Mood swings, changes to emotional wellbeing
- Drug or alcohol misuse

# What to do if you are concerned?



- Talk to us
- We are experienced in handling challenging circumstances
- You can expect discretion and for us to always act in your best interests
- Look out for each other and talk to us or your parents if you are worried