**Child Exploitation (CE) Vulnerabilities Checklist**

CE can happen in several contexts involving contact and non-contact abuse (i.e. peer on peer or adult on child) constrained choices or an organised abuse (group) basis such as a gang or membership.

If you suspect that a child may be at risk of CE then please consider the indicators below, these are evidence based.

These are indicators and you will need to use your professional judgement when you consider the totality of your answers. There is no matrix to correlate between number of ticks and risk. However, you will know the detail as to why you are ticking the indicator and you will know whether this assists to confirm your concerns or reassures you that these are not indicating a risk of CE.

The earlier the intervention, the better the chances of success and it is likely to be far more effective than intervention at a later stage.

The flow chart associated with the full procedure will support you as to what to do regarding the completion of this tool and next steps when you have completed it.

**If you require a consultation, please email the CERAR inbox-** [**CERAR.WAF@cumbria.gov.uk**](mailto:CERAR.WAF@cumbria.gov.uk)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Professional Opinion** | | |
| **What’s working well** | **What are you worried about** | **What needs to happen** |
|  |  |  |

**Date Completed:**

**Name & Job Title of person completing:**

**Please provide as much relevant information as possible under each category:**

**Vulnerabilities**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **History of local authority care** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Isolated from peers/social networks** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| Please provide dates, if known: |  | eg: have they always been isolated, is it new, what do we know about being isolated out of school hours |  |
| **Low self-esteem/low mood** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Breakdown of family relationships** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| eg: is it historical or current, has it warranted support. |  | eg: what was the relationships like before and now |  |
| **History of abuse/neglect** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Lack of positive relationship with adult** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| Please provide a general overview: |  | eg: this should include relationships within the family network and professional network |  |
| **Child with a disability** | **Tick if Relevant** |  |  |
| eg: what is the nature of the disability, do they have communication difficulties, how do these impact? |  |  |  |

**Risk Indicators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Exclusion from school/not engaged in school/college/training** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Expressions of despair (self-harm, overdose, eating disorder, challenging behaviour, aggression)** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| e.g When was this? Is this new behaviour? |  | eg: when was the last incident, what was the greatest incident of concern |  |
| **Unexplained absences from school** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Sexually transmitted infections (STI’s), pregnancies/termination of pregnancy** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| e.g Parents/caregivers / child/YP’s response |  |  |  |
| **Staying out late** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Substance / Alcohol misuse** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| e.g presentation on return, is this a new behaviour? |  | e.g Where does the child/YP say they get the money to buy alcohol/drugs? |  |
| **Disclosure of sexual/physical assault followed by withdrawal of allegation** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Multiple callers (unknown adults/older young people)** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| eg: nature of the allegation, when did it happen, what was done and are the Police aware? |  | e.g are these friends or are they unknown? What is the child/YP’s response? |  |
| **Use of a mobile phone that causes concern** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Physical injury without plausible explanation** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| e.g Does the child/young person leave their accommodation following a call? Is the communication secretive? Does the child/Young person have more than one phone? |  | e.g Is this the first time that injuries have been observed |  |

**Significant Risk Indicators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Periods of going missing overnight or longer** | **Tick if Relevant** | **Older ‘boyfriend’/relationship with controlling adult** | **Tick if Relevant** |
| e.g Is this a Historical/ Current? Child/YP’s Behaviour prior and on return. |  |  |  |
| **Entering/leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults** |  | **Unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothing, or other items.** |  |
| eg: what has been seen and when |  | e.g what has been seen and when |  |

Please complete the single contact form and attach this document.

**Exploitation is never the victim’s fault, even if there is some form of exchange**: **A child is anyone under the age of 18 and young people to the age of 25 for children who have Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND). Children and Young people have a right to feel safe and should be protected from harm.**

**Children and young people cannot consent to being exploited.**