

CHILD EXPLOITATION PROTOCOL (CSE/CCE)

Anderida is dedicated to the safe protection of all children. We have clear policies and procedures in regard to all aspects of Safeguarding and the protection of children. Outlined in this protocol is guidance for mentors to follow in relation to the expectation of the organisation to their actions, responses, communications, and their accountability.

This protocol is in line with, and expected to be read and acted upon in conjunction with:

- Safeguarding Policy And Procedure
- Child Exploitation Policy And Procedure
- NVR Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy And Procedure
- Missing Persons Policy And Procedure
- Bullying Policy

This Protocol is a working document and the below guidance is not exhaustive:

See Yourselves As Your Own MASH Team

As a whole team we have access to so much intel that when working closely together and utilised well will allow us to develop the strategies to best support children who have been, or are in the process of being groomed by those wishing to exploit them. Using the existing resources i.e. handovers, de-briefs, staff meetings therapeutic meeting as well as facilitating internal strategy meetings and involvement in external communications and strategy meetings we can effectively gather the information to disseminate and to act on.

When Young People Are Secretive And Don't Wish Us To Go Into Their Rooms

We need to get the balance between respecting the child's privacy and raising our adult/parental presence. If a child has become particularly secretive and refuses entry to their room, there is every chance that they are hiding something of concern, you need to raise your presence with the child and use our NVR support to reduce the risks and gain access into their world. Discuss with colleagues and raise the concern with your manager and the Safeguarding officer for the home and make a plan for how resist the child's secrecy.

Know Where Your Child Is At All Times

It is not intrusive or unreasonable to ensure that we are aware of the whereabouts of the child at all times, if we don't know where they are, we have a problem. Check in regularly, ensure mentors are present around the home and be vigilant. If a child is in their room for long periods, ensure that you are knocking regularly and getting a response.

Keep Firm Boundaries - Don't Become Complacent

We need to keep our boundaries firm but kind, there is often complacency when a child is '*just being a normal teenager*' think deeper and be mindful of letting your boundaries slip.

If It Doesn't Feel Right, Voice It! Be Assertive When Raising Your Concerns And Listen To The Concerns Of Others

We all have feelings in our 'guts' or often very clear worries and concerns, it is vital that we voice these and communicate clearly. Think about what it is that does feel right, you need to be assertive with colleagues who dismiss or minimise what you are communicating, the counter side of this is to ensure that you really listen to your colleagues and take on board their concerns. Use daily de-briefs to voice your worries, if you don't feel heard, elevate your concerns, don't wait for supervision or a meeting let a senior, manager or director know.

Remember When Working With A Young Person That They Are A Victim And Survivors Of CE - Even When This Has Been Done, Keep Working On These Themes

It is often easy to forget that the child is a victim, have this clearly in the forefront of your mind and remind your colleagues and the wider community of this. Don't forget to communicate to the child that they are a victim and we care for them too much to not resist the people who are exploiting them.

Make The Most Of Opportunities To Explore With The Child - Voice Your Concerns To Them

Take the windows of opportunity that are gifted to use by a child, often during an activity or a drive, over dinner etc. When they communicate something about their world explore this with them, use the opportunity to overcome cultural barriers to see the world through their eyes. Think about the media and conversations that you maintain some curiosity in rather than shutting down.

Think About What's Going On Below The Surface - Don't Take Things At Face Value

Think deeper that what you see or hear on the surface, often what is communicated to use be a vulnerable child who is being exploited is a '*smoke screen*' don't buy into this and explore further, i.e. *a child has a mobile phone that they do not have permission to have, they are missing from the home regularly without permission, they allow you to witness them talking to friends, who are they talking to you when you are not their to witness the communication?*

Ensure You Record Everything Clearly - All Of The Conversations And Concerns Raised Make Up The Pieces Of A 'Puzzle'

Clear recordings are vital in putting together a picture of what's going on for a child, it is often useful to put together a chronology for this purpose which will enable us to share the information, suspicions, concerns easily as well as reviewing the intel. Recordings should be factual, where there is opinion this should be clearly stated.

Set Up A Support/Concern Meeting With Key Family, Explore All Intel And Develop Ideas Together

We can't do this alone; we are part of a wider network supporting a child and we need to enlist their involvement. Reaching out to their 'expert' knowledge of the child and being inclusive will develop relationships and enable a team approach, we will use the NVR supporters network framework to all work together. Where location and travel make this difficult using virtual platforms is a proven medium for meetings and lessons the practical difficulties of facilitating such meetings.

Use Lots Of NVR Relational Gestures - Not Just For The Child But Also For The Families And Significant Others

Our relationships and connections with the child will be key in the work that we do, shower the child with small unconditional gestures that build on these relationships and make it harder for the child to ignore and dismiss us and our concerns.

Don't forget the family and other supporters we need to develop and sustain these relationships also.

If Young People Involved In CE Have Access To An Unsanctioned Phone, Do Not Give Permission To Be Out Without An Adult

Be firm with this, keep to your boundaries, we do not give them permission to go out without us under any circumstances, follow the missing child procedures along with NVR interventions and tail the child.

If Young People Involved In CE Has An Unsanctioned Phone, Do Not Give Them Cash

There is no such thing as what is often referred to as 'cash in hand' if a young person has a level of vulnerability particularly in relation to being exploited then as a safety measure we will not give them finances which will increase their vulnerability.

Work Closely With Legal Teams - This Can Be The Most Influential Over Young People Choosing To Step Out

Good communication and co-operation is vital in developing relationships with all external agencies, remember to send positive messages of support and recognition to further cement these relationships. Where challenge is required utilise the challenging agencies procedure based on NVR methodology.

Push Or Develop Posters For Key Areas Like Train Stations

Where a young person is vulnerable to exploitation and at risk of going missing, we will with the support and agreement of the social worker share pictures, develop posters to share with transport staff, Police etc, and where a child is missing these can be posted in areas where they may be seen.

Develop A Relationship With The Specific Point Of Contact For CCE/ CCE Within The Police External Agencies

Within the Police there will always be dedicated staff with special responsibility for exploitation. Mentors and managers are to identify these workers and develop relationships with them. Although for West Sussex, the MARS forms are good to share with these officers for their information and intel gathering.

SAFE CALL

This is a good resource for families and those who are affected:

<https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=c601911b39dee135JmltdHM9MTcxMDIwMTYwMCZpZ3VpZD0wNjViYzg4NS04YjEzLTZjYWEtMDU5Mi1kOTEzOGEzNDZkNTQmaW5zaWQ9NTI1NA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=3&fclid=065bc885-8b13-6caa-0592-d9138a346d54&psq=safecall&u=a1aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cubWlzc2luZ3Blb3BsZS5vcmcudWsvZ2V0LWhlbHAvaGVscC1zZXJ2aWNlcy9leHBsb2l0YXRpb24tYW5kLWNvdW50eS1saW5lcw&ntb=1>