



MK TOGETHER

**Safeguarding  
Partnership**



**Milton Keynes  
City Council**

# Milton Keynes Child Exploitation Indicator Tool

## Guidance

This Indicator Tool is to assist practitioners in exploring exploitation concerns and clearly outlines what actions are being undertaken to reduce these concerns. Plans to reduce these concerns focus on specific exploitation indicators and determine whether further investigations are needed by Children's Social Care (CSC) and Thames Valley Police (TVP). This tool therefore informs both assessment of need and referrals and should be attached to any Children's Social Care referral.

The Child Exploitation Indicator Tool can be used by any professional working with children under the age of 18, whilst we appreciate some adolescents prefer the term 'young people', for the purpose of this document we will refer to them as children. Different types of exploitation are:

1	Sexual Exploitation	Any sexual activity with a child in exchange for something the victim needs or wants or to enhance a perpetrator's reputation/status or for the financial gain of the perpetrator
2	Criminal Exploitation	Forcing/coercing a child to engage in criminal behaviour e.g. drug dealing, county lines, holding weapons/drugs, ABH, GBH, shoplifting, burglary, mugging etc
3	Forced Labour	Employing a child to undertake some form of employment to pay off any 'debts' or pay minimal amounts. Engage in work is illegal for their age.
4	Other	The illegal removal of a child's organ to be sold for human organ transplant, Illegal adoption, etc.

Often, children do not recognise themselves as victims, or that they are being groomed, and as a result, disclosures of such abuse can be unlikely. Therefore, this indicator tool aids the identification of exploitation; if you suspect anyone is in immediate danger, **call the Police on 999**

Practitioners need to exercise their own **professional judgment** when completing the tool because factors such as the child's age, any additional vulnerabilities, their history etc may mean that they are more vulnerable to exploitation. Professional judgment also includes capturing concerns about which they have some evidence **AND** concerns based on 'their gut feeling'. Staff should differentiate between the two and explain this in the 'comments' sections.

Children's social care staff and CFP practitioners will complete the screening tool within the forms section on either LCS or Early Help systems. **All other agencies**, once you have completed this form; Where child exploitation is suspected the worker needs to complete a MARF (attaching this form). Regardless if the concerns do not meet the threshold of CSC or Early Help (EH) or if there has been a MARF this form will need to be securely emailed to [exploitation@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:exploitation@milton-keynes.gov.uk) where it will be reviewed by the multi-agency Missing and Exploitation Hub.

CSC is responsible for assessing the level of risk to children. Should the referral not meet CSC's threshold, other support options will be considered including Early Help and referrals to appropriate services.

## Data Protection Privacy Statement

We collect and use information about you so that we can provide you with appropriate services. Full details about how we use this data and the rights you have around this can be found at [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/privacy). If you have any data protection queries, please contact the Data Protection Officer at [data.protection@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:data.protection@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

## Child's Details

Child's name:	
Date of birth:	
Ethnicity:	
School / College:	
Is child on part time timetable	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> if yes number of hours a week:
Is this child looked after?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do they live in residential care?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are they placed at a distance?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

## Your Details

Your name:	
Job title:	
Contact details:	
Date completed:	

## Information Sharing and Disclosure

Is child aware that this tool has been completed, and will be shared?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Did the Parents/Carers provide information for the completion of this tool, and aware this information will be shared?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Who else has contributed to the completion of this indicator tool? (child, parent/carer, school...)	
<b>Has the child made a disclosure of exploitation (abuse)?</b>  Current <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes' you must refer to Children's Social Care immediately Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes' you must refer to Children's Social Care to determine current risk	
<b>Are the people who may be grooming or exploiting the young person:</b>  <b>Known to the child?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A family member?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	
(if you answer Yes to either of the above questions please state who this person is)	
Names of the child's friends/siblings/others who you think might be also affected by exploitation:	
Current Missing/Exploitation Concerns:	

## Risk Indicators

1. Health Domain - Health to check	Within the last 8 weeks	Over 8 weeks old
1.1 Physical injuries such as bruising suggestive of either physical or sexual assault (include any knife, acid or weapon injuries)		

1.2	Sexually transmitted infection (STI), including recurring infections or multiple STIs or Pregnancy and/or seeking a termination/emergency contraception		
1.3	Poor self-image and low self-esteem, Self-harming or thoughts or attempted suicide or eating disorder and /or weight gain/loss		
1.4	Fearful or reluctant of providing details of the operation or hospital to professionals/police in respect of the removal of organs		
1.5	Evidence of misuse of drugs/alcohol, including associated health problems		
1.6	Physical and/or learning disability / learning difficulty		
<b>Health Comments/Evidence/Description of 'YES' indicators</b> <i>E.g. Indicator 1.10 – child/young person is attending substance misuse project and has disclosed heavy cannabis use</i>			
<b>2.</b>	<b>Behaviour Domain</b>	<b>Within the last 8 weeks</b>	<b>Over 8 weeks old</b>
2.1	Truancy/at risk of exclusion/missing education/on reduced timetable or considerable change in performance at school		
2.2	Volatile behaviour exhibiting extreme array of mood swings or abusive/sexual language which is unusual for the child		
2.3	Aggressive or violent including to animals, parents, siblings, teachers or peers		
2.4	Overly secretive behaviour (including online activities)		
2.5	Changes in appearance (not including weight changes), or in relationships with friends or family members		
2.6	Offending behavior or anti-social behavior, including petty crime		
2.7	Intelligence/suspicion to suggest that they carry weapons		
<b>Behaviour Comments/Evidence/Description of 'YES' indicators</b>			

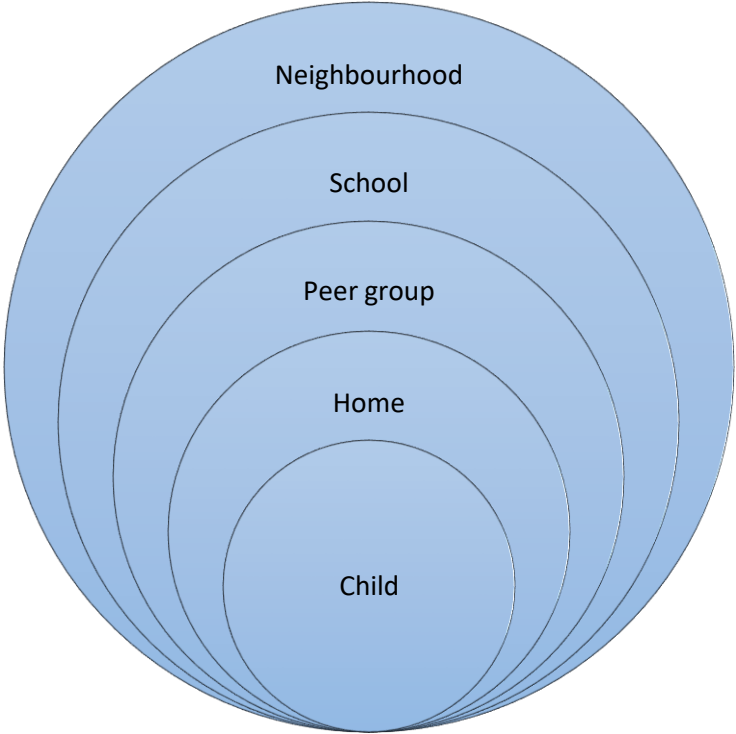
<b>3. Grooming Domain</b>	<b>Within the last 8 weeks</b>	<b>Over 8 weeks old</b>
3.1 Entering or leaving vehicles driven by unknown individuals, or regular use of taxis, with no known means of paying for them		
3.2 Possession of a second mobile phone or SIM card, or unusual or overly excessive use of mobile phones.		
3.3 Exposing or recruiting other children into exploitative situations		
3.4 Seen in adult places ( <i>ie</i> pubs and clubs) or venues known to be used for exploitation or criminal activity		
3.5 Unexplained relationships with older adults		
3.6 Associating with other children who are known to be exploited		
3.7 Disclosure of sexual/physical assault followed by withdrawal of allegation		
3.8 Phone call, texts or letters from people unknown to the family		
3.9 Child's mobile phone being answered by unknown adult/person or the child having new contacts with people outside of town		
3.10 Possession of money, clothes, accommodation or other expensive items with no plausible explanation		
3.11 Having keys to premises/cars other than those they should have, including hotel key cards		
3.12 Adults loitering outside the child's usual place of residence or school		
3.13 Going missing and/or returning after having been missing and being secretive about where they have been and who they were with		
3.14 Returning after having been missing looking dirty, disheveled, tired, hungry, thirsty		
3.15 Information to suggest the child has experienced abduction/false imprisonment or been coerced into sexual activity		
3.16 The child being in 'debt' or holding money/others depositing money in child's bank account		
3.17 Being paid/forced to carry or deliver drugs, harm others		
3.18 Not being paid for work, working long hours or working in an inappropriate environment		

<b>Grooming Comments/Evidence/Description of 'YES' indicators</b>		
<b>4. Family and Social Domain</b>	<b>Within the last 8 weeks</b>	<b>Over 8 weeks old</b>
4.1 A family member or known associate working in the adult sex trade or involved in criminal/drug activity		
4.2 Family history of child abuse		
4.3 Parental difficulties: Domestic abuse, drug and alcohol misuse, mental health problems, physical or learning difficulty. Child is a young carer		
4.4 Pattern of street homelessness or sofa surfing		
4.5 Conflict at home around boundaries, including staying out late and/or parents not being protective		
4.6 Gang/ASB group association either through relatives, peers or intimate relationships (including gang names or street names for the gang or child)		
4.7 Recent bereavement, loss, family separation and/or family breakdown		
4.8 There are cultural factors that impact on their vulnerability		
4.9 Insecure immigration status		
<b>Family and Social Domain Comments/Evidence/Description of 'YES' indicators</b>		
<b>5. Online Safety Domain</b>	<b>Within the last 8 weeks</b>	<b>Over 8 weeks old</b>
Childs mobile phone number(s):		
Childs social media sites and usernames:		

5.1	Concern that inappropriate images of a child are being circulated via the internet/phones		
5.2	Concern that the child is being coerced/bribed/paid/threatened to provide explicit images/engage in inappropriate sexual acts online		
5.3	Unexplained increased use of social networking, shared gaming sites and/ or receiving rewards/credits		
5.4	Accessing on-line dating/'hook-up' sites		
5.5	Going online during the night		
5.6	Being secretive using mobile phone for accessing websites etc., including unwillingness to share/show online or phone contacts		
5.7	Concern that a child is having a secret online 'relationship'		
5.8	Concerns that a child's online friendship has developed into an offline 'relationship'		
<b>Online -Safety Comments/Evidence/Description of 'YES' indicators</b>			

## Contextual safeguarding

It is important to see the child in the context of their surroundings and to explore how an area of a child's life can have an affect positively or negatively for them. In respect of missing and exploitation are there specific areas that have a greater risk to the child and if so, why do you think this?

<b>Neighbourhood/community:</b> 1.	<b>School:</b> 1.
	
<b>Peer group:</b> 1.	<b>Home:</b> 1.



## Summary of any concerns

It is important you complete all this section

Please tick if you know if child is open to any of the following specific interventions: <input type="checkbox"/> TVP (Violent Crime Task force) <input type="checkbox"/> TVP (Problem Solving Team) <input type="checkbox"/> Early Support Project <input type="checkbox"/> CSE Project <input type="checkbox"/> Youth:MK <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy Relationship project <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Drug/Alcohol service		<b>Assessment:</b> Based on the assessment above, please provide your professional opinion of risk by selecting <b>ONE</b> of the boxes below <input type="checkbox"/> No concerns of exploitation - concerns relate to behaviours associated with age-appropriate child/young person behaviours <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of vulnerability to exploitation <input type="checkbox"/> Emerging exploitation concerns <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of being groomed or targeted for the purposes of exploitation <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence that child is being exploited	
<b>Your analysis and overview (a few sentences to indicate your thinking):</b>      			
<b>Signs of safety scaling</b>  0 ←————→ 10 0 = Significant concerns 10 = no concerns	Was MARF submitted  Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  If yes, date submitted: ...../...../.....	Was Strat held:  Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  If yes, date: ...../...../.....	Was NRM completed:  Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  If yes, date submitted: ...../...../.....

Plan for child:          		
Actions: 1.... 2....	Tasked to? 1. ... 2. ...	Date: 1..... 2....

3.... 4....	3. ... 4. ...	3..... 4.....
Disruption plan, including opportunities to target Facilitator(s)/Perpetrator(s):          		
Actions: 1... 2.... 3.... 4....	Tasked to? 1. ... 2. ... 3. ... 4. ...	Date: 1.... 2.... 3.... 4....
Date discussed at Missing and Exploitation Panel:          		
Review date:    /    /		

## Chronology:

Flowchart for external agencies to CSC and CFP

