



## **What is Child Sexual Exploitation?**

- A form of sexual abuse.
- When children and young people receive “something” (e.g. food, alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, somewhere to stay) for taking part in sexual activity.
- When offenders have power over their victims.
- When perceived consent does not undermine the abusive nature of the act.

## **Some Known ‘Hotspots’**

- Shopping centres
- Arcades
- Fast food outlets
- Alcohol outlets (inc. corner shops)
- Pubs/clubs
- Public parks
- Car parks
- Organised events
- Public transport hubs
- Taxi ranks
- Hotels
- Public sex environments
- Public conveniences
- Leisure facilities

## **What are the signs to be aware of?**

- Being bought alcoholic drinks by adults although the young person is already tipsy.
- Being bought food or drinks by older adult whom they seem to see as a boyfriend/girlfriend.
- A young person who looks fearful, nervous, withdrawn or uncomfortable and doesn’t speak for themselves.
- Groups of young people being approached by older adults offering them alcohol/cigarettes/drugs.
- Young male or female with a significantly older male(s)/female(s).
- Young person looking tipsy whilst their “friend” is sober.
- Young person being out late on a school night/overnight.
- Overly sexualised language/ behaviour.
- Indications of sexual activity involving a young person who you know or suspect to be under 16 years of age.
- Young person being out late with older adults who do not seem to be family members.

## **How does this make me feel?**

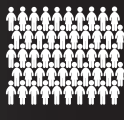
- I’m worried for them?
- None of my business?
- Do their parents know?
- Oh well – we were all young once?
- Wouldn’t let mine or those close to me do this?
- What if that was my child?

## **If you feel a young person is in immediate danger call 999**

If you have concerns about a young person or a situation you have witnessed **call 101**

Always take notice of behaviour, note descriptions of individuals/clothing/vehicles.

**And remember** CSE relates to anyone aged under 18 years.



Sexual exploitation affects **thousands of children and young people** across the UK every year.



CSE involves perpetrators grooming their victims in a range of ways, such as in **person, via mobiles or online**, to gain their trust before emotionally and sexually abusing them for their own gain.



Despite common perception, this is an issue that affects both **girls AND boys** alike.



Barnardo's is the largest provider of child sexual exploitation **support services** in the UK. We worked with over **5000 children, young people and their family members** in 2015-16.



Victims are often **too scared** to come forward, or might not even recognise that they are being exploited. They need our help.



Most sexual exploitation **takes place in private**, but public places are often used to meet, groom and abuse young people.



Children are most vulnerable to sexual exploitation between the **ages of 13 and 15**, but younger victims are being targeted all the time.



As a business, you may notice **behaviours that give you cause for concern**, it may be nothing but it also may be something. It is important you don't keep any concerns to your self.