

Shropshire Child Exploitation Directory

Support services available to young people and their families,
and guidance for professionals

Version 3 • Winter 2021/2022



Introduction

This directory has been produced to outline the support available to children and young people in Shropshire who are victims of, or at risk of Child Exploitation - as well as their families and professionals who support them. Child Exploitation is a complex issue, in which there are sometimes other push factors in the young person's life, so information about other services have also been provided.

What is Exploitation?

Exploitation is a form of abuse, it occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child, young person or adult (including those with care and support needs) into: any activity that results in financial or other advantage for the perpetrator or facilitator. Activity includes arranging or facilitating the involvement or travel (trafficking) of a child, young person or adult (including those with care and support needs). Specific types of Exploitation include:

- Modern Slavery (including human trafficking)
- Sexual Exploitation
- Criminal Exploitation
- Financial Exploitation
- Any other Exploitation that enables benefits of any kind (eg. removal of organs, forced marriage, illegal adoption)

The victim may still be exploited even if the activities that they are engaging in appear consensual. Multiple types of Exploitation can occur alongside or as part of other forms of abuse.

The role of the local authority

This directory has been produced by the Exploitation and Missing team within Shropshire Children's Services Compass department. The team's aims are to:

- Support parents and carers of children perceived to be at risk of CE - as it is recognised that the risks to children and young people at risk of exploitation are usually out in the community, rather than within the family home. This is what is known as 'Contextual Safeguarding'
- Discuss all referrals via bi-weekly multi-agency triage meetings - these referrals do not always result in social care involvement, in many cases children are referred to another service such as substance misuse support or diversionary activities with the aim of reducing the risk of exploitation.
- Work with other agencies to raise awareness of CE within schools and local communities.
- Support social workers who are already allocated to open children where exploitation concerns have arisen.

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Reporting Concerns

Before seeking support from any of the services provided within this Directory, please ensure that you call 999 if anyone is at risk of immediate harm.

You can also use the below methods to report concerns:

Report any concerns for a child or young person:

Phone: 0345 678 9021 or 0345 678 9040 if out of office hours

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/childrens-social-care-and-health

Submit a CE referral if you are a professional:

Complete a Child Exploitation Initial Assessment Tool which will initiate the CE Pathway:

<https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/local-content/4cjN/exploitation-tools-and-pathways/?b=Shropshire>

Report a non-urgent crime/incident or intelligence to the police:

Phone: 101

Website: Visit the "Tell Us About" section at www.westmercia.police.uk

The following alternatives can also be used to report intelligence:

- Email DLfIntel.shropshire@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
- Report anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or at www.crimestoppers-uk.org
- Children and young people who are concerned about their friends can contact report information anonymously via Fearless, a website which also includes a range of information about crimes affecting them. For more information, visit www.fearless.org
- The police CE Team are also happy to receive direct contact from agencies, however please be mindful that their inbox is only monitored between 8.00am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday. CETEAMShropshire@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Report concerns for a child or young person in the Telford & Wrekin area:

Phone: 01952 385385 or 01952 676500 if out of office hours

Website: www.familyconnecttelford.co.uk

Child Exploitation Consultation Sessions

We are here to support you 😊

Do you have a particular young person who you would like to discuss in more depth? If so, we are offering monthly consultations on the first Tuesday of each month, between 2pm – 4pm.

The following professionals will be on hand to offer advice and support regarding all CCE & CSE queries:

- Clare Jervis, Exploitation & Missing Lead
- Stafford Mason, Early Help
- Jo Smith, Education Access Service
- Sonya Jones, We Are With You
- Carrie O'Keefe, Branch Project

**THE
BRANCH
PROJECT**





Support Services

For young people who are at risk of Child Exploitation

Early Help / Targeted Early Help

Offer early intervention to support a young person or their family as soon as a problem emerges.

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help

To make a referral: 0345 678 9021 or 0345 678 9040 if out of office hours

West Mercia Youth Justice Service

West Mercia Youth Justice Service (WMYJS) works with young people aged 10 – 17 years old who have got into trouble with the police.

Website: www.westmerciayouthjustice.org.uk

Enquiries: 01743 261841 or email shropshire.team.wmyjs@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

We Are With You

Support service for any young people who are using drugs or alcohol. An allocated worker will work with the young person towards their goals with the aim of reducing their substance misuse. A referral to the service can be completed by professionals by completing a Smarter screening tool.

Website: www.wearewithyou.org.uk/services/shropshire

Enquiries: 01743 294700 or email srpinfo@wearewithyou.org.uk

Referral Form: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/media/21573/with-you-smarter-screening-tool-vnov21.doc>

Branch Project

The Branch Project works with children and young people who have experienced Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) or are worried about it.

Website: www.wmrsasc.org.uk/the-branch-project

To make a referral: Email branch@wmrsasc.org.uk

Purple Leaf

Purple Leaf work with young people who have exhibited or are at risk of exhibiting harmful sexual behaviour. They also provide education and training courses for professionals.

Website: www.purpleleaf.org.uk

Enquiries: 01905 677444 or email enquiries@purpleleaf.org.uk



Support Services

Programmes & diversionary activities for young people who are at risk of Child Exploitation

Climb

Climb, a Children's Society service partnered with the West Mercia Police Crime Commissioner, is a unique programme providing positive activities to young people who may otherwise be drawn into criminal activity.

Website: www.childrenssociety.org.uk/climb

Enquiries: climb@childrenssociety.org.uk

Steer Clear

Free voluntary programme provided by West Mercia Police, aimed at supporting young people to say no to knife crime. Anyone can make a referral into this.

To make a referral: Email steerclearshropshire@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Bright Star Boxing Academy

Bright Star is a nationally award winning charitable organisation that uses boxing and education to empower vulnerable people to make positive changes to transform their lives.

Website: www.brightstarboxing.co.uk

Enquiries: 07966 416267 or email joe.lockley@brightstarboxing.co.uk

The Hive

Creative venue and charity organisation based in Shrewsbury, which offers workshops & activities to children & adults across Shropshire.

Website: <https://hiveonline.org.uk>

Enquiries: 01743 234970 or email admin@hiveonline.org.uk

Red George

Rural skills project based in Hinstock which specialises in supporting young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties to learn a range of skills including animal care, farm maintenance and horticulture. ASDAN accredited Awards can be gained as part of this work.

Website: www.redgeorge.org.uk

Enquiries: 07717 777128

Shropshire Youth Association

SYA are a registered charity which helps youth clubs in Shropshire to get set up and keep going. They also run youth clubs and deliver youth projects.

Website: www.sya.org.uk

Enquiries: 01743 730005 or email info@sya.org.uk



Support Services

**For parents of young people who are
at risk of Child Exploitation**

PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation)

PACE provides one-to-one telephone advice & support to parents & facilitates meetings between parents, as well as offering advice & support when pursuing disruption & prosecution of perpetrators.

Website: www.paceuk.info

Enquiries: 0113 240 3040

SPACE

Offer help and guidance to parents of exploited children.

Website: www.bespaceaware.co.uk

Enquiries: Email email@bespaceaware.co.uk

PEGS (Parent Educational Growth Support)

PEGS support parents who experience child-to-parent abuse - including physical, emotional, psychological, verbal, sexual or financial abuse.

Website: www.pegssupport.co.uk

Enquiries: Email hello@pegssupport.com



Support Services

Substance Misuse

We Are With You

Support service for any young people who are using drugs or alcohol. An allocated worker will work with the young person towards their goals with the aim of reducing their substance misuse. A referral to the service can be completed by professionals by completing a Smarter screening tool.

Website: www.wearewithyou.org.uk/services/shropshire

Enquiries: 01743 294700 or email srpinfo@wearewithyou.org.uk

Referral Form: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/media/21573/with-you-smarter-screening-tool-vnov21.doc>

Frank

Provides honest information about drugs, including an online search facility as well as a 24 hour helpline.

Website: www.talktofrank.com

Helpline: 03001 23 6600, text 82111 or email frank@talktofrank.com

Opening hours: 24 hours

Families Anonymous

For family members and friends affected by another's abuse of mind-altering substances, or related behavioural problems. FA has groups spread throughout the country, which meet regularly.

Website: www.famanon.org.uk

Helpline: 0207 4984 680

Shropshire Recovery Partnership

Free treatment service for any adults across Shropshire who have a problem with drugs or alcohol. Services included individual support with a keyworker, group sessions, and access to detox and rehabilitation services.

Website: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/shropshire-choices/i-need-help/care-and-support-for-different-conditions/drugs-and-alcohol-shropshire-recovery-partnership-srp>

Enquiries: 01743 294700 or email shropshireinfo@addaction.org

Adfam

National charity tackling the effects of alcohol, drug use or gambling on family members and friends. Their website includes a forum which is aimed at being a safe, nonjudgemental environment for people who are going through similar experiences.

Website: <https://adfam.org.uk>



Support Services

Substance Misuse

Alcohol Change UK

Leading alcohol charity, who work for a society that is free from the harm caused by alcohol—the charity aren't anti-alcohol, instead they provide help and support on enjoying alcohol responsibly, and addressing problems caused by alcohol use. Their website includes handy tips for cutting down alcohol use, and a quiz to check how healthy your drinking is.

Website: <https://alcoholchange.org.uk>

NACOA

A charity that supports young people and adults who are affected by a parent's drinking.

Website: <https://nacoa.org.uk>

Helpline: 0800 358 3456

Drug Science

Leading independent scientific body on drugs in the UK. They work to provide clear, evidence-based information without political or commercial interference.

Website: www.drugscience.org.uk



Support Services

Sexual Abuse & Online Safety

Children and Young Person Sexual Assault Referral Service

Offer medical, practical & emotional support to anyone who has been sexually assaulted or raped.

Website: www.westmidscyps.co.uk

Helpline: 0808 196 2340 or email wmppaeds.sarc@nhs.net

Opening hours: 24 hours

Branch Project

The Branch Project works with children and young people who have experienced Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) or are worried about it.

Website: www.wmrsasc.org.uk/the-branch-project

To make a referral: Email branch@wmrsasc.org.uk

Purple Leaf

Purple Leaf work with young people who have exhibited or are at risk of exhibiting harmful sexual behaviour. They also provide education and training courses for professionals.

Website: www.purpleleaf.org.uk

Enquiries: 01905 677444 or email enquiries@purpleleaf.org.uk

AXIS

Counselling for sexual abuse survivors.

Website: www.axiscounselling.org.uk

Enquiries: 01743 357777 or email info@axiscounselling.org.uk

ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor)

Provide free confidential advice to anyone who has been raped or sexually assaulted - including signposting to relevant services & guidance around the criminal justice system.

Website: www.axiscounselling.org.uk/isva-service

Helpline: 01743 243007 or email isva@axiscounselling.org.uk



Support Services

Sexual Abuse & Online Safety

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection)

CEOP's aim is to keep children safe from sexual abuse & grooming online, by giving advice. An online form can also be used to report directly to CEOP if something has happened online which has made a young person feel unsafe, scared or worried. The form can also be used by friends, family members or professionals who are worried about someone.

Website: www.ceop.police.uk

Rape Crisis

Provides support to women & girls who have experienced sexual abuse, rape or any form of sexual violence. A free Live Chat Helpline is available on their website, along with some useful self-help resources.

Website: www.rapecrisis.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 802 9999

Opening Hours: Every day 12:00pm to 2:30pm & 7:00pm to 9:30pm

Stop It Now! Helpline

Confidential help & support for anyone concerned about Child Sexual Abuse - including potential perpetrators & their partners or family members. This is run by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation, who also provide training to professionals.

Website: www.stopitnow.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 1000 900

Opening Hours: Mon - Thurs 9:00am to 9:00pm or Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm

Disrespect NoBody

Government campaign aimed at preventing abuse in teenage relationships. Their website contains concise guidance for young people, & signposts to appropriate services.

Website: www.disrespectnobody.co.uk

Useful teaching materials for professionals: <https://www.pshe-association.org.uk/curriculum-and-resources/resources/disrespect-nobody-teaching-resources-preventing>



Support Services

Missing Children

Missing People

Provides guidance to people of all ages who are missing, as well as those affected by a loved one who has gone missing.

Website: www.missingpeople.org.uk

Helpline: 116000 (phone or text) or email 116000@missingpeople.org.uk

Opening hours: Every day 9:00am - 11:00pm

Runaway Helpline

Confidential helpline and website run by Missing People - aimed at young people who are thinking about running away, are currently missing from home, or have returned home.

Website: www.runawayhelpline.org.uk

Helpline: 116000 (phone or text) or email 116000@www.runawayhelpline.org.uk

Opening hours: Every day 9:00am - 11:00pm



Support Services

Modern Slavery & Trafficking

Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline

Provides a helpline and online form to get help, report a suspicion or seek advice.

Website: www.modernslaveryhelpline.org

Enquiries: 08000 121 700

Stop the Traffik

Organisation working to prevent human trafficking globally through innovative approaches, including the STOP app which can be used to report suspicious incidents of human trafficking anonymously.

Website: www.stopthetraffik.org

Enquiries: 0207 921 4258 or info@stopthetraffik.org



Support Services

Health & Wellbeing

Bee U

Bee U is the NHS emotional health & wellbeing service for young people up to the age of 25, who live in Shropshire or Telford & Wrekin. Referrals can be made by social care, education & health professionals. Parental consent is required prior to making a referral.

Website: <https://camhs.mpft.nhs.uk/beeU>

Enquiries: 0808 196 4501 or email 025spa@mpft.nhs.uk

NHS Sexual Health Service

Information regarding sexual health services across Shropshire.

Website: <https://www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/sexual-health/shropshire-telford-wrekin>

Beam

Emotional health & wellbeing drop-in service for young people up to the age of 25, who are registered with a GP in Shropshire or Telford & Wrekin. Young people can self-refer for the service by registering online.

Website: www.childrenssociety.org.uk/information/young-people/well-being/services/beam-shropshire-telford-wrekin

Enquiries: Email askbeam@childrenssociety.org.uk

Kooth

Online mental wellbeing community, which offers free & anonymous support for young people.

Website: www.kooth.com

The Mix

Provides a free helpline and online support for young people under the age of 25 to talk about any issue that may be troubling them.

Website: www.themix.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 808 4994 or text THEMIX to 85258

Opening hours: Every day 3:00pm - 12:00am

Shout

Free anonymous text message service for anyone who is struggling to cope.

Website: www.giveusashout.org

Helpline: Text SHOUT to 85258

Opening hours: 24 hours



Support Services

Health & Wellbeing

Papyrus Suicide Helpline

Confidential helpline for young people under the age of 35 who are experiencing thoughts of suicide, or for anyone concerned for someone.

Website: www.papyrus-uk.org/hopelineuk

Helpline: 0800 068 4141 or text 07860 039967 or email pat@papyrus-uk.org

Opening hours: Every day 9:00am to 12:00am

Child Bereavement UK

Support for young people & their families after the loss of a loved one. A helpline & webchat is available, & their website contains resources for families & professionals.

Website: www.childbereavementuk.org

Helpline: 0800 02 888 40 or email support@childbereavementuk.org

Opening hours: Mon—Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm

Anxiety UK

Offers online guides and a helpline for anyone suffering from anxiety, & their caregivers.

Website: www.anxiety.org.uk

Helpline: 03444 775 774, text 07537 416 905 or email support@anxietyuk.org.uk

Bipolar UK

Offers a range of services including support groups, an e-community & peer-to-peer support line.

Website: www.bipolar.org.uk

Hearing Voices Network

Provides online guidance for people who hear voices, see visions or have other unusual perceptions - training and resources are also available for professionals.

Website: www.hearing-voices.org

Carers UK

Help and advice for young people and adults who are carers for family members, including a helpline and online resources.

Website: www.carersuk.org

Helpline: Email advice@carersuk.org



Support Services

Health & Wellbeing

SANEline

Emotional support for anyone affected by mental illness, including friends, family & professionals.

Website: www.sane.org.uk

Helpline: 07984 967 708 or email support@sane.org.uk (leave a message & someone will call)

Young Minds

Provides support & guidance to young people around their mental health, a parents' support phoneline is also available.

Website: www.youngminds.org.uk

Helpline for parents: 0808 802 5544

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:30am to 4:00pm

Mind

Mind provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. They also campaign to improve services, raise awareness & promote understanding. Their website contains information for people of all ages, including a useful mental health A-Z.

Website: www.mind.org.uk

Headspace

App containing useful tools to improve emotional & mental wellbeing, including meditations & exercises. This is a paid app but a free trial is available, & the website also contains some articles which are free to read.

Website: www.headspace.com



Support Services

Domestic Abuse

Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service (SDAS)

Local service for victims of domestic abuse in Shropshire. Professionals are able to make a referral, & there is also a helpline for victims or anyone worried about someone. Their website contains videos & a useful checklist tool for young people.

Website: www.shropsdas.org.uk

Helpline: 0300 303 1191

To make a referral: Email refuge@connexus-group.co.uk

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 8:00pm

National Domestic Violence Helpline

Free 24 hour helpline for anyone suffering from domestic abuse. Their website also contains useful advice for victims, or for anyone who is worried about someone.

Website: www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 2000 247 or email helpline@womensaid.org.uk

Opening hours: 24 hours

Refuge

24 hour helpline & email service for women & children experiencing domestic violence.

Website: www.refuge.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Opening hours: 24 hours

Women's Aid

Provide practical advice & support to women & children who are experiencing domestic abuse.

Website: www.womensaid.org.uk

Enquiries: info@womensaid.org.uk

Men's Advice Line

Support for male victims of domestic abuse.

Website: www.mensadviceline.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 801 0327 or email info@mensadviceline.org.uk

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 8:00pm



Support Services

Domestic Abuse

PEGS (Parental Education Growth Support)

Supporting Parents and Professionals with child to parent abuse. Information is available online for any parents who feel threatened by their child or live in fear of their reactions, and an email helpline is available. The website also offers a referral form for professionals, and training.

Website: www.pegssupport.co.uk

Helpline: Email hello@pegssupport.com

Galop

National helpline for LGBTQ+ people who have experienced abuse & violence.

Website: <https://galop.org.uk>

Helpline: 0800 999 5428 or email help@galop.org.uk

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 10:00am to 5:00pm or Weds - Thurs 10:00am to 8:00pm

Respect

Confidential helpline for potential perpetrators of domestic abuse. A friendly Helpline Advisor will listen without judgement and give honest advice.

Website: www.respectphoneline.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 8024040 or email info@respectphoneline.org.uk

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 8:00pm

Sat - Sun 10:00am - 12:00pm & 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Freedom Programme

Free programme for victims of domestic violence.

Website: www.freedomprogramme.co.uk

Helpline: 01942 262 270 or email help@freedomprogramme.co.uk

Safe Lives

UK charity dedicated to working with organisations across the UK to transform the response to domestic abuse. Their website includes various resources for professionals.

Website: www.safelives.org.uk

Enquiries: 0117 403 3220 or info@savelives.org.uk



Support Services

Support Around Sexuality

Switchboard

Helpline & webchat service for anyone who identifies as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. Phone operators all identify as LGBTQ+

Website: <https://switchboard.lgbt>

Helpline: 0300 330 0630 or chris@switchboard.lgbt

Opening hours: Every day 10:00am to 10:00pm

FFLAG

FFLAG is a national voluntary organisation & registered charity dedicated to supporting LGBTQ+ young people & their families. Support is offered to local parents groups in an effort to help parents & families understand, accept & support their lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender members with love & pride. A support line is available & their website includes a variety of useful resources & advice.

Website: www.fflag.org.uk

Helpline: 0300 688 0368

Opening hours: Wed - Sat 10:00am to 8:00pm

EACH support for young people affected by homophobia

Provide a freephone helpline for young people up to 18 years of age who have experienced homophobic, biphobic or transphobic bullying. Training & resources are also available to professionals.

Website: <https://each.education>

Helpline: 0808 1000 143

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 4:30pm

Enquiries: 0117 946 7607 or email info@each.education

XYZ Club

Youth group run by Shropshire Youth Association, for young people who describe themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gender fluid, or questioning. The group meets weekly around the county.

Website: www.sya.org.uk/xyz-club

Enquiries: 01743 730005 or email info@sya.org.uk



Support Services

FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) Forced Marriage & Honour-Based Violence

Freedom Charity

Help and support for children & adults who at risk of forced marriage, FGM & honour-based violence. An app is available for potential child victims, their friends & professionals to help raise awareness of how to spot signs of abuse & how to report it. A helpline is also available.

Website: www.freedomcharity.org.uk

Helpline: 0845 607 0133 or text the words 4freedom to 88802

Forward UK

Provides advice & support for African women & girls. The organisation is also a leading expert on FGM, who provide training to professionals.

Website: www.forwarduk.org.uk

Helpline: 0208 9604000 or email support@forwarduk.org.uk

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 5:30pm

Karma Nirvana

Offer a helpline for victims of honour-based abuse, as well as training & resources.

Website: www.karmanirvana.org.uk

Helpline: 0800 5999 247

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm

Forced Marriage Unit

The FMU operates a public helpline to provide advice & support to potential victims of forced marriage, as well as professionals dealing with cases.

Website: www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage

Helpline: 0207 008 015

Enquiries: Email fmufcdo.gov.uk

ActionAid

International charity that works with women & girls living in poverty. Their website includes a number of publications regarding ending violence against women & girls, as well as FGM.

Website: www.actionaid.org.uk

Enquiries: 01460 238000 or email supportercontact@actionaid.org.uk



Support Services

Other Services

Shropshire Early Help

Early help offer early intervention to support a child, young person or their family as soon as a problem emerges. This can be required at any stage in a child's life, from pre-birth to adulthood, and applies to any problem or need that the family can't deal with alone.

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help

To make a referral: 0345 678 9021 or 0345 678 9040 if out of office hours

Shropshire Family Information Service

Information on all aspects of family life for parents and carers of children aged 0-19 in Shropshire. Resource packs are available, and there is an online directory of over 2000 local services, including childminding and out-of-school activities.

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help/practitioners/the-early-help-offer-provision-of-early-help-services/family-information-service

Children's Society

National charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. This includes specialist support that empowers young people to make positive changes and rediscover their hope, including the Climb service. As well local services, their website also offers valuable information for young people and professionals.

Website: www.childrenssociety.org.uk

NSPCC

The UK's leading children's charity, consisting of a range of services and training. A helpline is available for young people, or adults who are concerned about a young person. Additionally, performing a search for exploitation on their website brings up a number of articles relating to which are useful for providing an overview of different types of exploitation.

Website: www.nspcc.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 800 5000 (for an adult concerned about a child) or 0800 1111 (for young people) or email help@nspcc.org.uk

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 8:00am to 10:00pm or Sat - Sun 9:00am to 6:00pm

Childline

Offers a free and confidential helpline for young people up to 19 years old, one-to-one chats with a counsellor are also available, or you can email them for advice by setting up an account. Their website also has some useful online resources including games and videos.

Website: www.childline.org.uk

Helpline: 0800 111



Support Services

Other Services

Samaritans

Free helpline for anyone in distress and in need of support.

Helpline: 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org

Opening Hours: 24 hours

Family Lives

Provides a helpline for parents, as well as online advice regarding a wide range of issues.

Website: www.familylives.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 800 2222 or email askus@familylives.org.uk

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 9:00pm or Sat - Sun 10:00am to 3:00pm

Supportline

Confidential helpline for children and adults who are at risk of or victims of any form of abuse.

Website: www.supportline.org.uk

Helpline: 01708 765200 or email info@supportline.org.uk

Victim Support

Free helpline for anyone who has been a victim of crime, an online referral form is also available. The website includes some useful advice and tools for young people, including an interactive courtroom.

Website: www.victimsupport.org.uk

Helpline: 08 08 16 89 111

Opening Hours: 24 hours



Online resources for young people & their families

We Are With You Toolkit

Printable resources designed to increase young people & parents' understanding of exploitation.

www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/media/1297/1-we-are-with-you-exploitation-august-2020.pdf

www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/media/1298/2-we-are-with-you-grooming-august-2020.pdf

www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/media/1299/3-we-are-with-you-risk-august-2020.pdf

www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/media/1300/4-we-are-with-you-gangs-august-2020.pdf

www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/media/1301/5-we-are-with-you-help-august-2020.pdf

Criminal Exploitation: Stages of Recruitment

Printable leaflet produced by the Childrens Society, aimed at raising young people's awareness.

<https://mk0safeguardingmluiv.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/CCE-Stages-of-recruitment.pdf>

Thinkuknow

Covers online safety & CSE - content is arranged into age-appropriate categories.

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Not In Our Community

Covers all areas of CE and has resources and videos arranged in order of topic or age group.

www.notinourcommunity.org

Disrespect NoBody

Government campaign aimed at preventing abuse in teenage relationships. Their website contains concise guidance for young people, and signposts to appropriate services.

www.disrespectnobody.co.uk

Useful teaching materials for professionals: <https://www.pshe-association.org.uk/curriculum-and-resources/resources/disrespect-nobody-teaching-resources-preventing>

Bloom

Web-based support service which provides free courses for those who have experience sexual violence, abuse from family members, or bullying and harassment.

www.bloom.chayn.co

Internet Matters

Online safety hub, built with input from young people.

www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online



Online resources for young people & their families

Action for Children Parent Talk Hub

Online resources for parents & young people, a 1:1 chat service is also available.

www.parents.actionforchildren.org.uk

Parent Zone

Support for parents including downloadable activities & livestream sessions to help provide expert advice for parents & carers on online safety and digital resilience.

www.parents.parentzone.org.uk



Training & guidance for professionals

Shropshire CE Pathway

Child Exploitation Consultation Sessions

If you are a professional with a particular young person who you would like to discuss in depth, monthly consultations are available on the first Tuesday of each month, between 2pm - 4pm. Sonya Jones (We Are With You), Carrie O'Keefe (Branch Project), Jo Smith (Education Access Service), Stafford Mason (Early Help) & Clare Jervis (Exploitation & Missing Lead) are on hand to offer advice & support regarding all CCE/CSE queries.

To book a 30 minute slot, please email amy.amber@shropshire.gov.uk

TREES (Together Reducing & Ending Exploitation in Shropshire) Newsletter

Shropshire Council's Child Exploitation & Missing Team produce a quarterly newsletter, featuring updates on the current picture of exploitation in Shropshire, & articles from our partner agencies.

To sign up to the mailing list, please email amy.amber@shropshire.gov.uk

Shropshire Child Exploitation Toolkit

Submit a referral via the CE pathway using an Initial Assessment Tool. Practice guidance documents are also available.

www.westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/local-content/4cjN/exploitation-tools-and-pathways/?b=Shropshire

SSCP - Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership

Useful information & tools for professionals, parents and children.

Website: www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk

Enquiries: 01743 254259 or sscpbusinessunit@shropshire.gov.uk

West Midlands Child Protection & Safeguarding Procedures Manual

Regional & local area specific safeguarding information.

Website: www.westmidlands.procedures.org.uk



Training & guidance for professionals

Useful toolkits & guidance

NWG Disruption Toolkit

Toolkit provided by the National Working Group on criminal, civil & partnership disruption options for perpetrators of child & adult victims of exploitation.

www.csepoliceandprevention.org.uk/sites/default/files/Guidance%20Cap%20Intel%20Toolkit.pdf

National Referral Mechanism

Information on modern slavery & the government's work around this issue.

Website: www.gov.uk/government/collections/modern-slavery

Guidance on completing an NRM referral: <https://tce.researchinpractice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Guidelines-for-writing-a-clear-referral-for-the-National-Referral-Mechanism-NRM.pdf>

Appropriate Language Toolkit

A useful document to ensure that the appropriate terminology is used when discussing children & young people who have been exploited, or who are at risk of exploitation.

www.csepoliceandprevention.org.uk/sites/default/files/Guidance%20App%20Language%20Toolkit.pdf

Capturing & Reporting Intelligence Toolkit

This document can be used by families, professionals & community members to help understand what intelligence is & how it can be reported.

www.csepoliceandprevention.org.uk/sites/default/files/Guidance%20Cap%20Intel%20Toolkit.pdf

Children & Young People Trafficked for the Purposes of County Lines Toolkit

Useful toolkit for professionals based on the current understanding & evidence of CCE.

www.csepoliceandprevention.org.uk/sites/default/files/Exploitation%20Toolkit.pdf

'It was hard to escape' report

Government report regarding safeguarding children at risk from criminal exploitation.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/870035/Safeguarding_children_at_risk_from_criminal_exploitation_review.pdf

Modern Slavery Awareness & Victim Identification Guide

Guidance produced by the Home Office for professionals.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/655504/6.3920_HO_Modern_Slavery_Awareness_Booklet_web.pdf



Training & guidance for professionals

Useful toolkits & guidance

Look Closer campaign

Posters and leaflets created by the Childrens Society which can be placed in public areas, to help raise the public's awareness of spotting signs of exploitation.

Poster: https://www.telford.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/15411/look_closer_a3_poster.pdf

Leaflet: <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-10/Look-Closer-Leaflet.pdf>

Slang Dictionary

Designed to support parents, carers & professionals to better understand the language young people may be using.

www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/media/1304/slang-dictionary-a5-booklet.pdf

MARAC Guidance

Explains the purpose of Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences. This is the process in which multi-agency representatives discuss the safety, health & wellbeing of people experiencing domestic abuse & violence, & provide a safety plan for them and their children.

www.shropshire.gov.uk/crime-and-community-safety/domestic-abuse/multi-agency-risk-assessment-conference-marac

MAPPA Guidance

Explains the purpose of MAPPA meetings (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) This is the process in which police & other agencies work together to manage the risks posed by violent & sexual offenders living in the community in order to protect the public.

www.mappa.justice.gov.uk

Brook Sexual Abuse Traffic Light Tool

Useful toolkit to support professionals working with children and young people by helping them to identify and respond appropriately to sexual behaviours.

www.brook.org.uk/training/wider-professional-training/sexual-behaviours-traffic-light-tool

Educate Against Hate

Government advice & trusted resources for schools to safeguard students from radicalisation & build resilience to all types of extremism.

www.educateagainsthate.com



Training & guidance for professionals

Training

SSCP - Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership Training

Multi-agency safeguarding training available to all professionals.

Website: www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/professionals-and-volunteers/safeguarding-training

Enquiries: 01743 254370 or sscptraining@shropshire.gov.uk

Purple Leaf

Purple Leaf work with young people who have exhibited or are at risk of exhibiting harmful sexual behaviour. They also provide education and training courses for professionals.

Website: www.purpleleaf.org.uk

Enquiries: 01905 677444 or email enquiries@purpleleaf.org.uk

Suicide prevention online training

Online training courses around suicide awareness & prevention.

www.zerosuicidealliance.com

PREVENT online training

Free training around safeguarding people from being radicalised to supporting terrorism.

www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/b/screen1

FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) Awareness Training

Free online training provided by the Home Office.

<https://fgmelearning.vc-enable.co.uk/Register>



Training & guidance for professionals

Other organisations of interest

NWG (National Working Group)

Charitable organisation formed as a UK network of over 14,500 professionals working on the issue of child exploitation within the UK. This includes valuable resources and events, and work on national strategy.

Website: www.nwgnetwork.org

Enquiries: 01332 585371 or email network@nwgnetwork.org

ECPAT UK (Every Child Protected Against Trafficking)

Children's rights organisation working to protect children from trafficking and exploitation. They provide training and webinars for professionals, as well as youth programmes.

Website: www.ecpat.org.uk

Enquiries: 020 7607 2136 or email info@ecpat.org.uk

NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence - provides guidance to professionals on a range of topics.

Website: www.nice.org.uk

Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire

Multi-agency network aimed at protecting vulnerable adults in Shropshire. Their website includes useful materials and other resources.

Website: www.keepingadultssafeinshropshire.org.uk

A-Z Glossary

Terms you may hear in relation to Exploitation

CAWN - Child Abduction Warning Notice. Preventative tool issued to adults by police, which alert the respondent to the fact the authorities are aware of their involvement with a particular child. This is used as a disruption option to try and discourage the adult from associating with the child. These can only be issued to an adult, when the child is either under the age of 16 and parents provide their consent, or if the child is in local authority care.

CCE - Child Criminal Exploitation. A method where a perpetrator exploits a child for their own criminal gain.

CIN / Child in Need - A CIN is anyone under the age of 18 with a disability, or who requires support from their local authority to stay safe or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development. A CIN plan is put in place by social workers, medical professionals and parents to ensure the child's needs are met. It can only be put in place with parents consent.

CLA - Also sometimes referred to as LAC, but CLA is the preferable term. This refers to a Child Looked After – a child in the care of the local authority (residing within a residential placement, foster home or supported living placement) Refers to anyone up to the age of 18. Shortly before the child's 18th birthday, they are transferred to the Leaving Care team, who will oversee their transition from a CLA to adulthood.

County Lines - A system where gangs and Organised Crime Groups exploit children to sell drugs. Often these children are forced to travel across counties, and they use dedicated mobile phone 'lines' to supply drugs.

Contextual Safeguarding - Looking at the context of the relationships and risks surrounding a young person – who they engage with throughout their life, including their local community. Contextual safeguarding suggests that the risks are in the community, rather than within the home.

CP / Child Protection - Child Protection. This is the next plan up from a CIN status, which is drawn up by social workers. It sets out how the child should be kept safe and what support is needed. Consent from parents is not required for this, as it is a legal requirement.

CSE - Child Sexual Exploitation. A method where a perpetrator exploits a child for their own sexual gain.

Cuckooing - A crime which involves drug dealers taking over the home of a vulnerable person to use it as a base for drug dealing.

EH / Early Help - Early Help – A Shropshire Council service available to all young people and families, as soon as a problem emerges. It can be required at any stage in a child's life, from pre-birth to adulthood, and applies to any problem or need that the family can't deal with alone. The next step up from Early Help is social care.

A-Z Glossary

Terms you may hear in relation to Exploitation

FGM - Female Genital Mutilation. This ritual originates in Africa but also takes place in some Eastern European countries, and illegally in this country, to young girls and women from those backgrounds. It is linked purely to the country they originate from, rather than religion. Girls can be subjected to it at any age between 6 days old to adulthood. It can lead to death, or severe health complications after the procedure, including later on in life.

Hazing - Forced dares and initiations amongst groups of children and teenagers, influenced by gang culture and American fraternities.

MAPPA - Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. This is the process in which police and other agencies work together to manage the risks posed by violent and sexual offenders living in the community in order to protect the public.

MARAC - Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference. This is the process in which multi-agency representatives discuss the safety, health & wellbeing of people experiencing domestic abuse & violence, & provide a safety plan for them and their children.

NRM - NRM referrals are made to the government's SCA (Single Competent Authority) when there is reason to believe that a child or adult is being trafficked (moved around) for the purposes of criminal activity. This can apply to cases of both CCE and CSE. Consent is not needed to gain an NRM for a child, but they need to consent once they turn 18, if keep the NRM in place. There are a number of benefits of an NRM – it aids prosecution of perpetrators without the need of a victim statement, and it offers a Section 45 statutory defence which assists in decriminalising. So if the young person is arrested, it informs the police that the child is a victim and may have been compelled to commit crimes under duress.

OLA - Other Local Authority. Refers to a child placed in Shropshire by another authority.

Panel - Monthly multi-agency meeting facilitated by the Compass Exploitation Team, to discuss the current picture of CE in Shropshire, and examples of good practice.

Peer-on-peer abuse - Recognised as a new form of abuse. This can consist of bullying, cyber bullying, sexting, teenage relationship abuse, and hazing.

PWITS - Possession With Intent To Supply – this criminal offence is often referred to using this acronym.

A-Z Glossary

Terms you may hear in relation to Exploitation

RHI - Return Home Interview following a Missing episode, conducted by the child's allocated social worker.

Section 17 - Section of the Children's Act which states that it is the general duty of every local authority to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within the area who are in need. If it's decided that the threshold for Section 17 has been met, then a Social Work Assessment will take place. To judge whether the threshold for a Section 17 has been met, a social worker asks: Will the child's health and development be impaired without the provision of services?

Section 47 - An investigation which takes place within Children's Services, which often takes place jointly with the police. A strategy meeting is held within Children's Services to determine whether the threshold for a Section 47 investigation has been met. This is met when there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or likely to suffer from harm in future. The enquiry involves an assessment of the child's needs and the ability of those caring for the child to meet them. The aim is to decide whether any action should be taken to safeguard the child. The assessment will involve interviews with the child, their parents, school and medical professionals.

Smarter - Smarter Screening Tool – the format in which a child is referred to the We Are With You service. It assesses which substances a child uses, and how this impacts their life. The tool can be found at the Early Help website, under the section titled 'Substance misuse toolkit' <https://shropshire.gov.uk/early-help/practitioners/early-help-tools>

SWA / Social Work Assessment - The initial assessment completed when a child is referred into social care. For this to take place, one of more of the child's parents must provide consent.

Triage - Bi-weekly multi-agency triage meetings facilitated by the Compass Exploitation Team, to consider the most appropriate next steps for a child referred due to CE concerns.

If you are interested in adding your service to this directory, would like an amendment to be made, or would like to sign up to receive future versions, please contact the Exploitation and Missing Co-ordinator amy.amber@shropshire.gov.uk

