## What are the indicators of child sexual exploitation?

- Staying out late, unexplained absences or going missing
- Unexplained gifts (which can include cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, food)
- Self-harm
- Significant changes in behaviour
- Substance misuse
- Change in appearance
- STI's or pregnancy
- Withdrawal from family relationships
- Change of peer group or withdrawal from usual peer group
- Secretive about life style
- Secretive and excessive mobile and internet use
- Truancy or exclusion from education
- Associating with peers already identified as at risk of CSE
- Relationships with older people

What to do if you are worried about a child and sexual exploitation...

Contact:

#### Family Connect

01952 385385

familyconnect@telford.gov.uk

(Out of hours: 01952 676500)

Other useful contacts/sources of information:

Police: 0300 333 3000

NSPCC (National Number): **0808 800 5000**Asian Child Protection line: **0800 096 7719**PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation):

0113 240 3040

Crimestoppers: **0800 555 111** 

www.ceop.gov.uk www.ukhtc.org www.paceuk.info www.barnados.org.uk A Guide for **Professionals** 

CATE

Children Abused Through Exploitation

A service for young people aged 13 -19 at risk of exploitation









# What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

Child sexual exploitation is a form of sexual abuse in which a child or young person is exploited, coerced and/or manipulated into engaging in some form of sexual activity in return for something they need or desire and/or for the gain of a third person.

The 'something' received by the child can include both tangible items such as food, somewhere to stay, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or money and more intangible 'rewards' such as perceived affection, protection or a sense of belonging. Fear of what might happen if they do not comply can also be a significant influencing factor.

Common to all these scenarios is an imbalance of power in favour of the abuser and some degree of coercion, intimidation, exploitation, violence and/or enticement of the child or young person (DSCF 2009).

The abuse can be perpetrated by groups or individuals, and by adults or peers.

Referral completed by a worker who knows the young person best

If the referral is accepted it is allocated to a CATE worker

The CATE worker will contact both the referrer and the young person

Discussions begin and information is gathered

A Risk Assessment is completed based on the information gathered

A panel of professionals meet to make a decision on the appropriate level of risk

If a young person is identified as Low/Medium risk we will still provide intervention.

If the young person is identified as being at high risk, the referrer will be invited to a strategy meeting

A multi-agency plan will be drawn up to enable the best support for the young person

### Who are 'CATE' and what do we do?

- A small team within Telford & Wrekin Council, Family, Cohesion and Commissioning Services
- Committed to identifying and working with young people who are at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation
- We build positive and trusting relationships to increase awareness and reduce the risk of CSE
- Working in partnership with all relevant agencies; Police, Safeguarding, Education, Health Services, Social Services and Voluntary Sector
- Offer one to one support delivering the CATE intervention pack covering 6 themes: 'What is CSE?', 'Healthy Relationships', 'Understanding Grooming', 'Internet Safety', 'Sex and the law', 'Peer pressure'
- Supporting young people to access other services/agencies as appropriate

# If you are worried about a child and sexual exploitation phone Family Connect on 01952 385385