

# Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

## Briefing/Fact Sheet for Schools

### What is CSE?

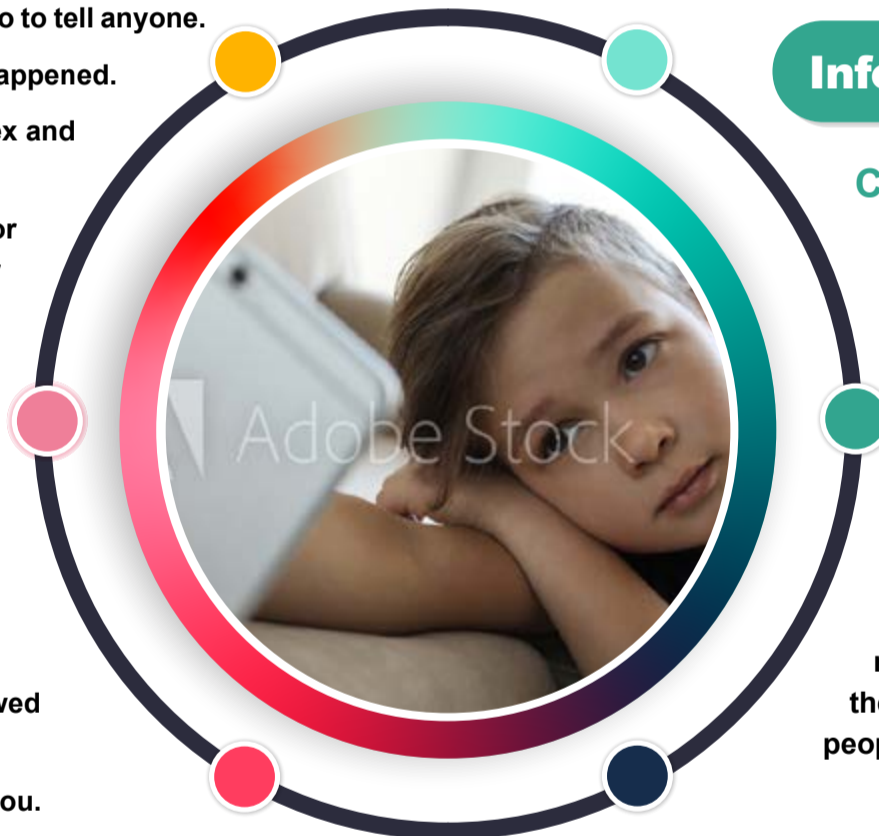
CSE is a form of child sexual abuse and is happening to young people in Scotland today.

CSE can happen to any young person of any gender and family background.

It can take place online and in the real world and can involve a one-on-one situation between an offender and a young person as well as organised networks and groups.

### Messages from Children

- Was unaware that what was happening was wrong or abuse.
- Thought the offender was a loving friend, boyfriend, or girlfriend.
- Was unsure who to tell.
- Thought it happened too long ago to tell anyone.
- Been in denial that it 'actually' happened.
- Found it difficult to talk about sex and relationships.
- Felt embarrassed, ashamed or scared of what the offender might do if they spoke out.
- Worried that no-one would believe them, and they would be judged or rejected.
- Feared for their own safety and that of the wider family.
- Become dependent on the offender for alcohol or drugs.
- Been made to feel like they owed the offender in some way.
- Wanted to avoid disappointing you.



### Why it Matters

As Educational Practitioners we have contact with children during the school day and may have vital information which helps inform a bigger picture about children and young people's lives.

Children and young people don't realise what is happening.

Sometimes it appears they are making choices, when in reality, they are being groomed and coerced.

Safe and consistent relationships are paramount to the promotion of resilience in children & young people.

#### Resources

- [csethesigns.scot](http://csethesigns.scot)
- Aberdeenshire GIRFEC Website [CSE Resources including Practitioner Guide](#)
- Free CSE E-learn <https://calaelearning.co.uk/>

### Information to Parents

#### CSE Website

<http://csethesigns.scot/parents/get-help-now/reporting-your-concern/>

The more parents and carers are aware about the dangers of child sexual exploitation

– including the ways in which it can happen, who it can affect and the behavioural warning

signs, that could indicate a child is at risk of abuse or already being affected – the more that can be done to protect young people.

### Lucy Faithful Foundation

#### Learn How to Keep Children Safe

To help families, *we've made 12 short films* that aim to inform parents, carers and professionals about how and why child sexual abuse happens, how to prevent harm from happening in the first place, and where to get help if something has already happened.

The films cover topics such as 'Understanding child sexual abuse', 'The effects of sexual abuse on children', 'Why children don't tell about abuse' and 'What to do if you suspect abuse'. There's also information on the warning signs of abuse in both children and adults, and how to make a family safety plan.

You can *watch the films* on our Parents Protect website now. We'd be grateful if you could share this email with your friends, family and colleagues, and also on social media so that as many people as possible know what they can do to keep children safe.

### Reporting the Concerns

When contacting the Police or Social Work you will be asked for as much information as possible.

The kind of thing they might want to know is:

- Why you are concerned?
- Is the child in immediate danger?
- Are there other children who may be at risk?
- Child's name, age, date of birth and address
- Names of any adults who have care of the child
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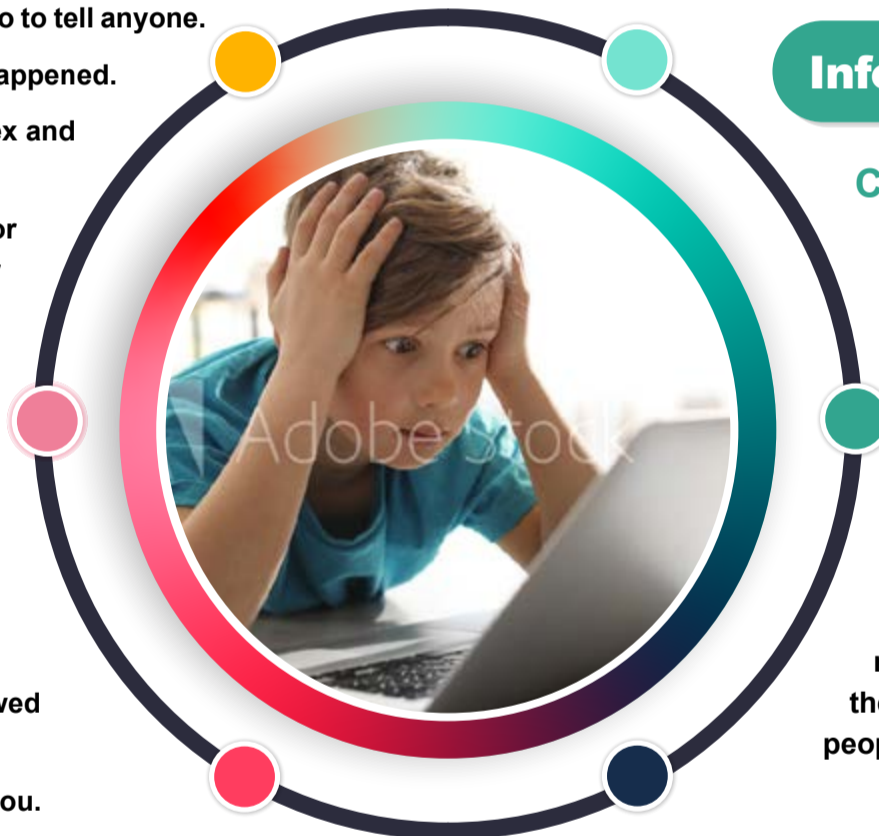
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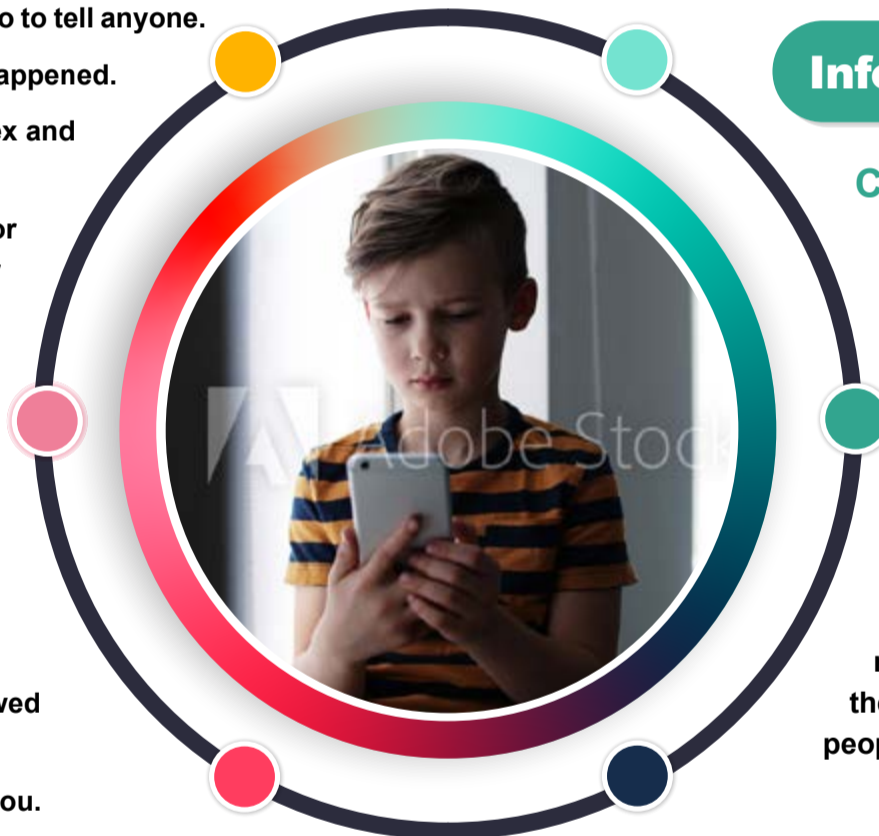
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