



Beech Hill Primary School

Early Help Offer

Effective ways to help and support our families at the earliest opportunities.

Beech Hill Primary School's Early Help Offer

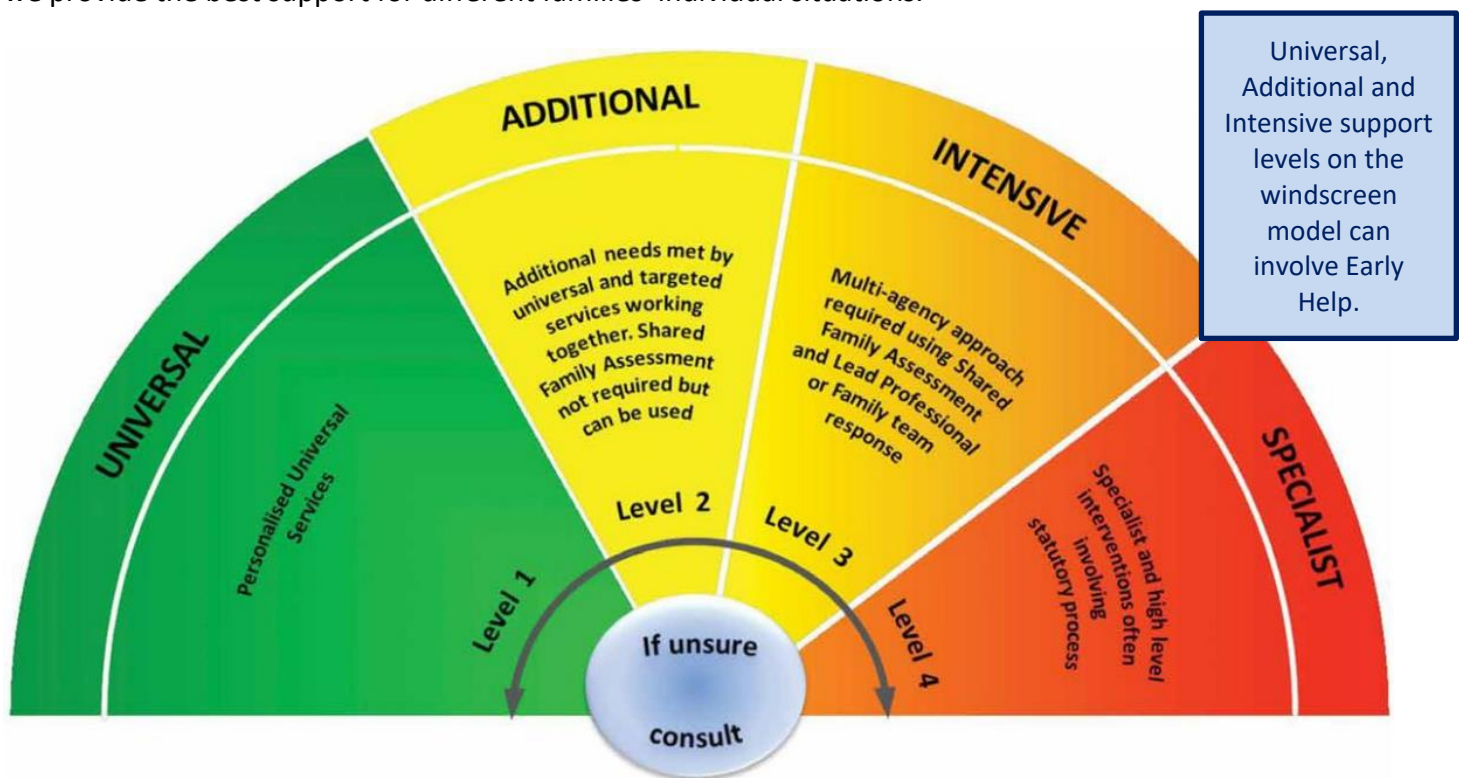
Beech Hill Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Providing Early Help to our children and families at Beech Hill means that we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can. Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, beginning with the Early Years Foundation Stage setting.

We endeavour to create a school ethos that promotes trust between all adults and children, so that all children know who they are able to talk to if they have any concerns or worries.

At Beech Hill, we believe that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Miss Carson (Deputy Head Teacher) is our Designated Safeguarding Lead. She is also the Lead for Prevent, Operation Encompass and Children Looked After. There are three Deputy DSLs: Mr. Davidson (Head Teacher), Mrs. Begum (CME Lead) and Mr. Munir (Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead). Mrs. Riaz and Mrs. Amin are both Safeguarding Officers and Family Workers. Mrs. Fairweather, our Attendance Officer, also forms part of the Safeguarding Team. The Governor with responsibility for child protection is Mrs. Kerry Watson. All staff receive annual safeguard training through the DSL, as well as regular updates through continuous professional development. Any new staff receive the full safeguard training, again delivered by the DSL or a Deputy, as part of their induction to the school.

The diagram below shows the range of needs at different levels. We use this approach to make sure that we provide the best support for different families' individual situations.



Providing Early Help to our pupils and families at Beech Hill means we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can. Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to teenage years.

In **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023**, it makes it clear that ALL staff should be aware of their local Early Help process and understand their role in it. In addition, this statutory document makes it clear that any child may benefit from Early Help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for Early Help for a child who:

- Has a disability and/or has specific additional needs;
- Has SEN (Special Educational Needs) -whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health Care Plan;
- Is a young carer;
- Is showing signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups;
- Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home;
- Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves;
- Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation;
- Is in a family circumstance present challenges for the child; such as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse;
- Has returned home to their family from care;
- Is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect;
- Is at risk of being radicalised or exploited;
- Is a privately fostered child.

Beech Hill's Early Help Offer:

Within school we provide the following Early Help support for all children, striving to ensure concerns, no matter how small, are listened to and supported effectively, maximising the chances of effectively safeguarding all of our children:

- ✓ **Family Workers:** Mrs. Riaz and Mrs. Amin are our Family Workers. They are able to offer targeted support to parents and carers, addressing a variety of concerns or difficulties. Support can be provided through face-to-face meetings, over the telephone and even via email – whatever method suits parents' circumstances best. Both members of the Safeguarding Team are available before, during and after school, alongside their colleagues, Mr. Munir and Mrs. Begum, for both drop-in and booked appointments.
Support can be provided for parents and pupils in the home, as well as within the school environment

Please contact the Team through the school office if you feel that you or your child/children would like some support (01582 429434 – option 3).

- ✓ **Speech and Language Therapists (SALT) – Magic Words:** We recognise that communication is both a vital and complex skill that develops gradually over time from the moment a child is born. It is important that children develop a firm foundation of earlier skills such as listening and playing so that they can successfully develop later skills such as using tricky sounds and spelling. Tessa and Emily are our Magic Words Speech and Language Therapists. They work with us for two days each week (Mondays and Wednesdays) where each practitioner works a different day. They assess and support children who are internally referred to them for speech and language needs. Parents are provided with reports and strategies to develop their children's speech and language at home. Working with children on a 1:1 basis enables our therapists (and trained TAs) to deliver programmes bespoke to the needs of individual/small groups of children. The therapeutic intervention runs until significant progress has been made or other resources have been provided where appropriate. We also access NHS SALT services and can make school referrals to them.
- ✓ **Educational Psychologist (EP):** Beech Hill access support from an Educational Psychologist via our traded services package. Children potentially in need of EP support are discussed during weekly Inclusion meetings (where members of the Senior Leadership Team, Safeguarding and Inclusion are present). The SENCo will then refer to the EP who will use her knowledge of child development to assess difficulties children may be having with learning, offering recommendations and support.
- ✓ **Edwin Lobo Centre:** The Edwin Lobo Child Development Centre provides a consultant-led service for children and young people with a suspected disability, neuro-disability or developmental delay living in South Bedfordshire and Luton. They bring together a team of professionals from health, education and children's social care who are based at, or visit the centre. These include occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech and language.
- ✓ **CAMHs MHST (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services/Mental Health Schools Team):** We work closely with MHST, which is a service that sits within Luton CAMHS. Maqsd and Ameen, our practitioners, work directly with young people experiencing or at risk of experiencing mental health difficulties. The service offers consultation, advice, support and training which can be specifically tailored to suit the professional seeking the service. In addition, MHST provide parent workshops/drop-ins and a range of sessions for parents to empower them to be able to support their children. The school's Mental Health Lead meets, virtually, with Maqsd on a monthly basis to discuss any children on our safeguarding radar or any children who have been referred by members of staff who have noted concerns.
- ✓ **School Nurse:** We work closely with our school nurse, who is able to provide advice and guidance to parents on a variety of health and wellbeing issues. She visits school regularly and meets with the Safeguarding Team as and when required.

- ✓ **Mental Health First Aiders:** We have 12 key staff who have all received basic Mental Health First Aid training/CPD. This supports staff to spot signs and symptoms of common mental health issues, provide non-judgmental support and reassurance, and guide the young person or adult to seek professional support they may need to recover.



- ✓ **Links with our LA Social Workers and other support agencies including the Safeguarding in Education Lead** In addition to the above professionals, we also work closely with our Safeguarding in Education Lead, Ella Sealey.

- ✓ **Attendance:** Every child whose attendance is below 90% is carefully monitored by the Attendance Officer and the Head Teacher. Support is offered wherever possible, utilising the skills of the Safeguarding Team. Formal attendance meetings are held and improvements recognised. Our school operates a first day response system. Where attendance does not improve, we enlist the support of the Education Welfare Service, to further support families wherever possible.



- ✓ **Prevent-Trained Staff:** All of the staff at Beech Hill complete Prevent training via the Government portal. Staff are therefore equipped to identify the early signs of possible radicalisation and what to do. This training is part of the induction process for new staff.
- ✓ **Child Criminal Exploitation:** All staff have been trained through the whole school safeguard training delivered annually, and are able to identify early indicators of potential cases of child criminal exploitation. All DSLs and the Safeguarding Team undertake Working Together training every two years.
- ✓ **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM):** All staff receive annual training on FGM. Teachers know how to identify if a child may be at risk. They are aware of the countries and places within this country where children may be taken to for this to happen. They know the signs to look for and most importantly how to refer, following the schools safeguarding procedures. In additional, all staff have completed Pan-Bedfordshire FGM training.
- ✓ **PSHE and Relationships Health and Sex Education Programme:** Our school delivers Personal, Social, Health and Economics, (PSHE) and Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RSE) programmes through our bespoke school curriculum. This programme further support the children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe. It also broadens their understanding of strategies to develop their resilience, as well as their awareness of their mental health and approaches to keep this aspect of their lives healthy.
- ✓ **Early Help partner referrals:** As a school, we refer to a range of safeguarding partners including:
 - CAMHS
 - MHST
 - CHUMS
 - Roma Trust
 - Links Community Centre
 - MARAC
 - MASH (to access the Family Partnership Service)
 - Luton Red Cross
 - Once Stop Shop
 - CAB
 - Luton All Women's Centre
 - Women's Aid

- ✓ **Online safety:** Each year group is taught online safety lessons throughout the year, using the KAPOW programme. Assemblies are delivered, including NSPCC assemblies, to support children to develop a greater awareness of the dangers they face online each day, as well as strategies to keep themselves safe. Regular hints and tips to protect children online, relating to specific areas of interest for children such as 'You Tube' and 'Tik-Tok' are shared on our school website.
Beech Hill use LGFL's online audit tool to ensure we are providing the highest level of practice in terms of online safety. This is reviewed annually. In addition, School Protect is used to filter and block online access (the latter, where applicable).
- ✓ **Nurture facilities:** Nurture rooms within school provide a safe environment for children to share any concerns in private and within a safe, welcoming environment. These areas include the Safeguarding Office, the Sunflower Room, the Sensory Room and the SLT area. Staff are all prepared to support all children with social, emotional and mental health needs.
- ✓ **Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead:** Mr. Munir is our qualified Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead. He runs a range of interventions for children in need and also oversees a team of colleagues who deliver other interventions including lunch clubs, Zones of Regulation and Lego therapy.
- ✓ **Parental engagement workshops:** We offer a range of parental engagement workshops including: mental health, online safety, phonics, SEN coffee mornings, English classes, behaviour, getting ready for school etc.
- ✓ **Operation Encompass:** Beech Hill are signed up to Operation Encompass and Missing Person Notifications. This enables us to identify vulnerable families and, where applicable (in line with guidance), provide support.
- ✓ **Financial hardship support:** We provide free school meals to families with no recourse to public funds and support families to apply for free school meals. We also issue Level Trust vouchers, shoe vouchers and HUGG vouchers to our most vulnerable families.
- ✓ **Luton Food Bank vouchers:** We are a registered online referrer for Luton Food Bank. This enables us to provide rapid support for families in need.
- ✓ **Translation support:** Members of the Safeguarding Team speak Urdu and Bengali (our two main languages). In addition, we have Pahari, Arabic, Polish, Spanish, Hindi and Punjabi speakers. Through external contacts, we can also provide Romanian translation.
- ✓ **Transition meetings:** When children join our early years setting, we conduct pre-admission home/setting visits where we endeavour to ascertain as much information as possible about the children. This ensures that a rounded picture of the child can enable early intervention and, where applicable, trigger Early Help support.
- ✓ **Welfare checks and Home Visits:** The Safeguarding Team and Attendance Officer will conduct home visits to support families with attendance, punctuality, behaviour or safeguarding concerns.
- ✓ **Extra-Curricular Clubs:** Extra-curricular clubs are offered to all children to encourage a healthy lifestyle, relationship building, physical activity and sports, social development skills and enhancement of the curriculum. We also offer breakfast club for working parents and vulnerable families.

We also liaise with other agencies and people within the local community.

Please find below details for some national organisations that can support children, young people and their families:

<p>The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)</p>	<p>If a member of staff, parent/carer or member of the public thinks a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm they should contact the MASH – 01582447653. In an emergency always call 999.</p> <p>Do not wait to discuss this with the DSL/DDSL but do report it afterwards.</p>
<p>LSCB (Local Safeguarding Children’s Board) Website.</p>	<p>https://www.safeguardingbedfordshire.org.uk/</p> <p>Important information for parents and professionals across Bedfordshire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options. Everyone should know how to access this website which has all of the agreed Luton safeguarding and child protection processes on it.</p>
<p>Early Help in Luton (Family Partnership Service)</p>	<p>https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Health_and_social_care/children_and_family_services/Pages/family-partnership-service.aspx</p> <p>Early help means providing help and support to a child, young person or their family as soon as it is identified they need additional help and support. This could be at any point in a child or young person’s life for example in pregnancy right the way through to their eighteenth birthday. This can be help and support on more than one occasion as we know children’s needs change as they grow and develop: there are challenges in their communities and their family circumstances and situations can change too.</p>
<p>Luton Family Information Service (FIS) Universal source of help for all families in Luton.</p>	<p>https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Health_and_social_care/children_and_family_services/family-support-guidance/Family%20Information%20Service/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>Luton FIS are a useful source of information for parents and professionals. They support families, children and young people aged 0-19 years of age (25 for young people with additional needs) and professionals working with these families. They can help link parents up with other organisations that might be able to help or provide the information themselves. FIS advisors give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education.</p> <p>The website also contains a link which signposts users to a range of registered service within Luton.</p>
<p>Flying Start, Luton</p>	<p>Flying Start is a partnership approach to the delivery of services for families in Luton, with a focus on the antenatal period and the early years. The Early Years Alliance and partners, working alongside local communities and parents, are committed to delivering the Flying Start vision and strategy and supporting children to have a flying start in life.</p> <p>https://www.flyingstartluton.com/</p>
<p>Online Safety</p>	<p>Online Activity (phones, computers) can be a serious risk to children: The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues. Child sexual exploitation; radicalisation; sexual predation – technology often provides the platform that facilitates harm. With the right support, education and safety measures in place the internet and new technologies can also bring great benefits but we must all be vigilant.</p> <p>PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with safety issues. www.paceuk.info/ https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/</p> <p>CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) Is a one-stop-shop for most information about online safety. Their website: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/teachers contains excellent resources and useful links.</p> <p>The government website Educate Against Hate https://www.educateagainsthate.com/ is designed to help parents and professionals understand the risks of children and young people being radicalised by extremists online and how to keep children safe.</p> <p>www.internetmatters.org – A great site for helping parents keep their children safe online.</p> <p>Luton-based NHS online safety advice and guidance: https://www.blmkhealthiertogether.nhs.uk/health-for-young-people/growing/online-safety.</p>

Mental Health

The Mental Health Support Teams are a new service designed to help meet the mental health needs of children and young people in education settings. They are made up of senior clinicians and higher-level therapists and Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs).

Their website provides a wealth of information. Contact the Luton team on : 01525 638614

[https://www.blmkhealthiertogether.nhs.uk/health-for-young-people/mental-health-and-wellbeing/support-advice-and-guidance/where-get-help#:~:text=CAMHS%20%2D%20Mental%20Health%20Support%20Teams,Mental%20Health%20Practitioners%20\(EMHPs\).](https://www.blmkhealthiertogether.nhs.uk/health-for-young-people/mental-health-and-wellbeing/support-advice-and-guidance/where-get-help#:~:text=CAMHS%20%2D%20Mental%20Health%20Support%20Teams,Mental%20Health%20Practitioners%20(EMHPs).)

Luton Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Information Resource

If your child is struggling with their emotional and/or mental health, there are a number of local and national services offering information, advice and support for children and young people aged 0-25 years. This collection of resources reflects a multi-agency approach to supporting the emotional wellbeing of children and young people in Luton.

<https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/advice.page?id=PqsBGYw6CMg&localofferchannel=0>

There are a broad range of services, across Bedfordshire and beyond, offering support, guidance and advice to support young people and their families. Below are a selection of many websites which you may find useful:

- Luton Mental Health and Wellbeing services:
<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/services/bedfordshire-and-luton-mental-health-and-wellbeing-services-0>
- Luton-based mental health support for children and young people:
<https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/advice.page?id=0JzB2pTjr0A&localofferchannel=0>
- NHS mental health support and advice - <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/>
- **Staying Safe** – a website to support those having suicidal thoughts <http://stayingSAFE.net/>
- **SANE**: 0845 767 800 www.sane.org.uk
- **Samaritans** 116 123 (24 hour helpline) www.samaritans.org.uk
- **Rethink Mental Illness** 0300 5000 927 www.rethink.org
- **Mental Health Foundation** www.mentalhealth.org.uk
- **MIND** 0300 123 3393 or text 86463 www.mind.org.uk
- **Anxiety UK** 08444 775 774 www.anxietyuk.org.uk

<p>Bullying (including cyberbullying)/ child death/suicide prevention</p>	<p>Cyberbullying is using the internet, email, online games or any digital technology to threaten, tease, upset or humiliate someone else.</p> <p>If the police consider a message or post to be potentially criminal, they will take appropriate action. This could involve arresting the person responsible or interviewing them under caution. Cases involving sustained abuse or where someone’s life is threatened will be treated seriously. The police will consider all of the circumstances when considering the best response to a report of cyber bullying. They will assess how vulnerable the victim is and what resources are required to trace the offender via social networking sites that often operate abroad and to different legislation. In certain cases it may be difficult to take action if the offender isn’t in the UK. Police will work with the victim to bring about the most suitable and proportionate conclusion, this will include alternative options that include the officer in the case using their discretion and working with the offender to record an apology to the victim.</p> <p>Useful links: Bullying UK Childline KidScape: https://www.kidscape.org.uk/ provide information on issues surrounding bullying, online and personal safety. They can be used directly by young people and parents, as well as in the classroom within schools and youth organisations.</p>
<p>Hate Crime</p>	<p>A hate crime is a criminal offence where motive can be linked to the victim’s race, national origin, religion or sexual orientation. A difference of race alone is NOT sufficient to make it a hate crime. There would have to be evidence of racial slurs or racial statements in addition to the crime (this does not trivialise other serious offenses that are NOT hate crimes).</p> <p>Hate Crime:</p> <p>Bedfordshire Police: https://www.beds.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/hco/hate-crime/ Emergency number: 999 Non-Emergency number: 101 report online to True Vision (opens in a new window)</p> <p>A useful website for parents: https://educateagainsthate.com/parents/</p>
<p>Child Criminal Exploitation – (CCE) and County Lines</p>	<p>LSCB guidance on CCE: https://bedfordscb.proceduresonline.com/p_ch_criminal_exp.html</p> <p>Here is some guidance for frontline professionals on dealing with county lines, part of the government’s approach to ending gang violence and exploitation: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines</p> <p>Children who are trafficked, exploited or coerced into committing crimes are victims in need of safeguarding and support. Though perceptions are altering these young people are still often criminalised and perceived as having ‘made a choice’ to take part in illegal activity. https://www.catch-22.org.uk/child-criminal-exploitation/ https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/drug-trafficking/county-lines</p>
<p>Reducing Parental Conflict</p>	<p>Some level of arguing and conflict between parents or carers is often a normal part of everyday life. However, there is strong evidence that frequent, intense and poorly resolved parental conflict can have a negative impact on children’s mental health and long term life-chances.</p> <p>The parental conflict indicator shows 12% of children were living with at least one parent reporting relationship distress. Parental conflict is twice as likely in workless couple-parent families compared to where both parents are working.</p> <p>In response to this, the government developed the Reducing Parental Conflict programme to reduce parental conflict and improve children’s outcomes. The funding is made available to Local Authorities in England, who work in partnership with a range of experts from relationship and family charities.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/reducing-parental-conflict-programme-and-resources</p> <p>Luton guidance for couples and separated co-parents: https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=cQZeAxTSOdQ</p>

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Luton Safeguarding Children Procedures has a page dedicated to CSE:

[https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Health and social care/safeguarding/safeguarding children/Pages/Child-sexual-exploitation.aspx](https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Health%20and%20social%20care/safeguarding/safeguarding%20children/Pages/Child-sexual-exploitation.aspx)

It provides information about child sexual exploitation, the roles and responsibilities of relevant agencies and the procedures practitioners should follow to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people whom it is suspected have been sexually exploited or are at risk of sexual exploitation.

Bedfordshire Police CSE information and links:

[https://www.beds.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/caa/child-abuse/child-sexual-exploitation/Key facts about CSE](https://www.beds.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/caa/child-abuse/child-sexual-exploitation/Key%20facts%20about%20CSE)

Bedfordshire CSE Strategy:

[https://www.luton.gov.uk/Health and social care/Lists/LutonDocuments/PDF/Pan-Bedfordshire-child-sexual-exploitation-strategy.pdf](https://www.luton.gov.uk/Health%20and%20social%20care/Lists/LutonDocuments/PDF/Pan-Bedfordshire-child-sexual-exploitation-strategy.pdf)

Luton Faiths Against Child Sexual Exploitation: <https://faces.org.uk/get-support/>

Key facts:

- It affects both girls and boys and can happen in all communities.
- Any young person can be targeted but there are some particularly vulnerable groups: Looked After Children, Children Leaving Care and Children with Disabilities.
- Victims of CSE may also be trafficked (locally, nationally and internationally).
- Over 70% of adults involved in prostitution were sexually exploited as children or teenagers.
- Sexual violence or abuse against children represents a major public health and social welfare problem within UK society, affecting 16% of children under 16. That is approximately 2 million children.

Documents:

- [Appropriate Language: Child Sexual and/or Criminal Exploitation Guidance For Professionals \(CSE Police and Prevention website, opens in a new window\)](#)
- [Child Sexual Exploitation: Definition and a guide for practitioners \(GOV.UK website, opens in a new window\)](#)
- [Child Sexual Exploitation – Identification Tool](#)

Making a referral

The Local Authority has a duty to make enquiries where a child may be suffering harm or neglect. If you think that a child may be at risk then you can let the LA know by following the reporting link in the first hyperlink.

Useful Websites:

[Barnardo's](#) spot the signs: Advice for parents, professionals and young people on the signs of sexual exploitation and how to keep safe [Department for Education \(Gov.uk\)](#) National Action Plan for Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation [Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation](#) page is the leading national charity working with parents and carers whose children are sexually exploited [NSPCC](#) definitions, statistics, facts and resources about CSE.

[NWG Network](#): Fighting against CSE and working to inform, educate and prevent child sexual abuse within the UK.

Spotting The Signs of Child Sexual Exploitation: a 15 minute [YouTube clip](#) from Health Education England.

<p>Domestic Violence and Abuse</p>	<p>Domestic abuse is an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence, by a partner, ex-partner, a family member, or carer. Abuse can begin at any time in a relationship, after a relationship has ended or within a family, and it takes place at all levels of society, regardless of social class, race, age, religion, sexual orientation or disability. Individuals may experience abuse or be affected by it long after they have left their abuser.</p> <p>The website for the Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership provides a detailed list of the numerous support agencies across Bedfordshire:</p> <p>https://bedsdv.org.uk/advice-for-practitioners/</p> <p>NSPCC advice: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/domestic-abuse/</p> <p>Luton advice and agencies: https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Community_and_living/crime-and-community-safety/Domestic_violence/Pages/Whatisdomesticabuse.aspx</p> <p>Further reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help • https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/getting-help-for-domestic-violence/
<p>Honour-based violence (HBV)</p>	<p>‘Honour’-based violence (HBV) occurs when perpetrators believe a relative or other individual has shamed or damaged a family’s or community’s ‘honour’ or reputation (known in some communities as izzat), and that the only way to redeem the damaged ‘honour’ is to punish and/or kill the individual. ‘Honour’-based violence is a term that is widely used to describe this sort of abuse however it is often referred to as so called ‘honour’-based violence because the concept of ‘honour’ is used by perpetrators to make excuses for their abuse. There is a very strong link between ‘honour’-based violence, forced marriage and domestic abuse. The term ‘Honour-Based Violence’ is the internationally recognised term describing cultural justifications for violence and abuse. Honour-Based Violence cuts across all cultures and communities. Where a culture is heavily male dominated, HBV may exist. The police have made it a high priority to help communities fight back to tackle both honour-based violence and hate crime.</p> <p>The ‘Honour Network Help line’: 0800 5 999 247 https://karmanirvana.org.uk/</p> <p>https://www.lutonallwomenscentre.org.uk/help-with-forced-marriage-honour-based-abuse</p> <p>https://www.beds.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/honour-based-abuse/honour-based-abuse/</p>
<p>Female genital mutilation (FGM)</p>	<p>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal or the external female genitalia. FGM is illegal in the UK and as of October 2015 mandatory reporting commenced. If education staff or other professionals discovers that an act FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years old there is a statutory (legal) duty on teachers for them PERSONALLY to report it to the police.</p> <p>Luton guidance and support: https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Health_and_social_care/safeguarding/safeguarding_adults/Pages/Female-genital-mutilation.aspx</p> <p>NHS guidance and support: Read https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/female-genital-mutilation-fgm/ for NHS information and signs of FGM. Any suspicion of FGM should be referred to the Police and social care.</p>

<p>Forced marriage</p>	<p>UK Forced Marriage Unit fmu@fco.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7008 0151 Call 999 (police) in an emergency. www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage for information on Forced Marriage. <i>Visit Home Office website to undertake Forced Marriage e-learning package</i> https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage.</p> <p>Luton Council advice and guidance: https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Community_and_living/crime-and-community-safety/Domestic_violence/Pages/Domestic%20abuse,%20forced%20marriage%20and%20honour-based%20violence.aspx</p>
<p>Bedfordshire Safer Streets (Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls)</p>	<p>Safer Streets want to work together across Bedfordshire to reduce Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) and raise awareness about unacceptable behaviour towards women and girls. Our aim is to start a conversation that challenges ideas around the acceptability of sexual harassment in public places. Sexual harassment has significant and widespread impacts, both on individuals as well as on society. Sexual harassment in public reduces women and girls’ freedom to enjoy public life, and can negatively affect feelings of safety, bodily autonomy and mental health. Being sexually harassed can be a degrading, humiliating, and harmful experience, but the effects are damaging more widely. It helps to keep women and girls unequal by perpetuating a culture in which they are sexualised; it is the backdrop to a society in which sexual violence can be normalised or excused.</p> <p>https://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/safer-streets-violence-against-women-and-girls/#:~:text=If%20you%20or%20someone%20you,Services%20on%200800%200282%20887.</p>
<p>Private fostering</p>	<p>If you are looking after someone else’s child (under 16, or under 18 if they have a disability) for more than 28 days in a row; they are not a close relation, and you are not their legal guardian this is called private fostering.</p> <p>A close relation would be a grandparent, a brother, sister, uncle or aunt. They can be a full or half relation and could be related by marriage. Relatives also include step-parents but does not include a parent’s unmarried partner or extended family members such as great aunts, great uncles or parent’s cousins.</p> <p>To ensure children and young people in Luton are safe and being properly cared for. It’s important that you will receive the support you need in fostering for Luton and are not alone to face new challenges. If you are a private foster carer, a social worker will visit you to ensure the child or young person is safe and well, they will also offer you help and support.</p> <p>You must tell us about the arrangement at least six weeks before the private fostering arrangement begins. If a child or young person arrives at short notice advise us within 48 hours of them arriving. Parents must tell us if they have made a private arrangement with someone who is not a close relative to look after your child.</p> <p>The local authority has a legal duty to ensure that children and young people in this situation are safe and properly cared for.</p> <p>https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Health_and_social_care/children_and_family_services/Pages/Private-fostering-who-is-sleeping-in-your-house.aspx</p> <p>National Fostering Agency (NFA) https://www.nfa.co.uk/national-fostering-agency/ Call on: 0808 284 9226</p> <p>Kinship Care: This is when relatives or friends look after children who cannot live with their parents.</p>
<p>Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism/Hate (PREVENT duty)</p>	<p>www.educateagainsthate.com is the government website providing information and practical advice for parents, teachers and schools leaders on protecting children from radicalisation and extremism. Anti-Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321</p> <p>Concerns can also be raised by email to the Home Office: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk.</p> <p>Let’s Talk About It is an excellent website for parents: www.ltai.info/</p> <p>While it remains very rare for school age children to become involved in extremist activity to the point of committing criminal acts, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, including via the internet, from an early age. As with other forms of criminality or risk of harm, early intervention is always preferable. Schools, working with other local partners, families and communities, can help support pupils who may be vulnerable as part of wider safeguarding responsibilities.</p> <p>Bedfordshire Prevent: https://www.beds.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/t/prevent/prevent/</p> <p>Luton Prevent and Channel: https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Community_and_living/crime-and-community-safety/prevent/Pages/default.aspx#:~:text=Channel%20is%20simply%20a%20safeguarding,or%20if%20appropriate%2C%20their%20parents.</p>

<p>Sexting/ Sextortion/ youth produced imagery</p>	<p>http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keepingchildren-safe/sexting (NSPCC website).</p> <p>LSCB Harmful Sexual Behaviours guidance: https://bedfordscb.proceduresonline.com/p_ch_yp_harm.html</p>
<p>Children Missing in Education (CME)</p>	<p>Children Missing Education (CME) refers to 'any child of compulsory school age who is not registered at any formally approved education activity e.g. school, alternative provision, elective home education, and has been out of education provision for at least 4 weeks'. CME also includes those children who are missing (family whereabouts unknown), and are usually children who are registered on a school roll / alternative provision.</p> <p>This might be a child who is not at their last known address and either has not taken up an allocated school place as expected, or has 10 or more days of continuous absence from school without explanation, or left school suddenly and the destination is unknown.</p> <p>https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Education_and_learning/Schools_and_colleges/parents-students/School_standards%20and%20attendance/Pages/Children%20missing%20in%20education.aspx</p>

<p>Children with family members in prison</p>	<p>Approximately 200,000 children have a parent sent to prison each year. These children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health. NICCO https://www.nicco.org.uk/ provides information to support professionals working with offenders and their children to help mitigate the negative consequences for these children.</p> <p>Luton links:</p> <p>https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=hYLKyNAclmE&directorychannel=0</p>
<p>Children and the court system</p> <p>CAFCASS (Children and Families Court Advisory and Support Service)</p>	<p>CAFCASS represent the interests of children and young people in the family court. They independently advise the family courts about what is safe for children and in their best interests. They focus on their needs, wishes and feelings, making sure that children's voices are heard and are at the heart of the family court's thinking and decision making. For every child, whose current and future living arrangements are decided by the courts, they seek to provide an exceptional experience, everywhere, and every time.</p> <p>https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/.</p> <p>Children are sometimes required to give evidence in courts, either for crimes committed against them or for crimes they have witnessed. There are two guides to support these children which can be found at https://www.gov.uk/search/all?keywords=young+witness+booklet&order=relevance 'young witness booklet for 5 to 11 year olds and going to court and being a witness age 12 to 17'.</p>

Stalking and Harassment

Stalking

Stalking is defined as “a pattern of unwanted, fixated and obsessive behaviour which is intrusive and causes fear of violence or serious alarm or distress”. (CPS and Paladin Advocacy definition).

Stalking behaviours can include:

- Following a person
- Contacting, or attempting to contact a person
- Publishing any statement or other material relating or purporting to relate to a person, or purporting to originate from a person
- Monitoring someone’s internet use, email or other electronic communication
- Loitering in a public or private place
- Interfering with property or possessions
- Watching or spying on a person

Harassment

Harassment is a term used to cover 'causing alarm or distress' offences under section 2 of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, and 'putting people in fear of violence' offences under section 4 of the PHA.

Harassment is unwanted behaviour which is offensive or makes someone feel afraid or fearful of violence.

Harassment can include:

- Texts, phone calls, letters, emails
- A comment or threat
- Standing outside someone’s house or driving past it
- An act of violence
- Damage to property
- Maliciously reporting someone to the Police for something that they have not done
-

General Advice:

- If it doesn’t feel right it probably isn't!
- Seek support from trusted family/friends
- Report to the police and do this early
- Keep a diary in a secure location
- Screenshot emails etc. and save them
- Photograph/video your stalker if safely possible
- Get professional advice
- Tighten security; home, work and online

Bedfordshire Police:

<https://www.beds.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/sh/stalking-harassment/how-to-report-stalking-harassment/>

Guidance, support and advice: <https://bedsdv.org.uk/stalking/>

National Stalking Helpline

For advice and support. The helpline will operate a triage service for local support and make referrals -Phone: 0808 802 0300

Website: www.stalkinghelpline.org

Email: advice@stalkinghelpline.org

Paladin: National Stalking Advocacy Service

For advice and referral.

Phone line: 020 3866 4107

Email: info@paladinservice.co.uk

Website: www.paladinservice.co.uk/

<p>Children With Disabilities Team (CWD)</p>	<p>Luton's CWD Team provide a range of support for families in Luton. Please visit their website for more information. https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Education and learning/Special educational needs/SENsupport/Pages/Services-for-children-with-disabilities-and-their-families.aspx#:~:text=The%20Childcare%20Disability%20team%20works,following%20professional%20assessment%20of%20need.</p> <p>The Children with Disabilities (CWD) Social Work Team provide services designed to meet the needs of children and young people who have complex disabilities.</p> <p>The CWD Social Work Team is one of a range of services that can provide support to children and young people with disabilities and their families. Other services available are those provided by health, education, play and youth services as well as community resources provided by voluntary agencies.</p> <p>The CWD team offer services to those children and young people requiring additional resources in respect of their disability, where the disability has a profound impact on the child or young person's life.</p> <p>An assessment will be offered where the child has a condition which is substantial, long lasting or permanent, is a physical and/or learning disability or a life-limiting, life-threatening condition. These may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • severe learning disabilities • severe physical disabilities • severe developmental delay in motor and/or cognitive functioning • profound multiple disabilities • severe sensory impairment (registered blind and/or profoundly deaf) • complex and severe health problems that arise from the disability, that are life-threatening, degenerative illness or an organic disorder resulting in severe disability • a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder with an associated learning disability and where the condition severely affects day to day functioning.
<p>Support for Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD)</p>	<p>Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability caused by differences in the brain. People with ASD may behave, communicate, interact, and learn in ways that are different from most other people. People with ASD often have problems with social communication and interaction, and restricted or repetitive behaviors or interests. People with ASD may also have different ways of learning, moving, or paying attention. These characteristics can make life very challenging. It is important to note that some people without ASD might also have some of these symptoms.</p> <p>Autism Bedfordshire: https://www.autismbedfordshire.net/</p> <p>Snap Charity: https://www.snapcharity.org/business-directory/3557/autism-links/</p> <p>Luton-based support for families with Autism: https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=aJuKzr2uX9Y</p> <p>Swan Group (Support with Autism Network) https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=oWrY5iQZC4s&localofferchannel=0</p> <p>Local Support for children on the Autism Spectrum - https://padlet.com/karenthomas7/local-support-for-families-on-the-autism-spectrum-in-luton-mtm5uir9ki60onhb</p> <p>https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=ER5s_YHO0-U</p>

