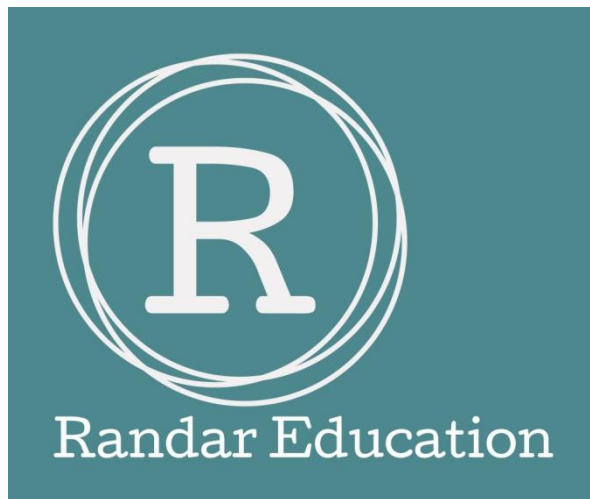




Randar Education

Child Sexual Exploitation

Policy

Policy Date
Review Date

1st April 2025
1st April 2026

REVIEW SHEET

Each entry in the table below summarises the changes to this policy and procedures made since the last review (if any).

Version Number	Version Description	Date of Revision
1	Original	1 April 2024
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Introduction

As explained within the Randar Education Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, the welfare of the young people learning at Randar Education is the primary concern of staff, as they are responsible whilst on shift for the safety and well-being of our young people.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a major safeguarding and child protection issue across the UK which, due to the pressure of perpetrators on victims to remain secretive and private, as well as embarrassment and heartache that it can cause victims, means it has gone vastly un-noticed in the past.

Fortunately, increased knowledge has gained media interest in recent times, now people are in a better position to tackle this abuse than ever before.

This policy is written to enable staff, as well as receiving training in the area, to recognise and respond effectively to any signs of CSE.

The following should be read in conjunction with relevant guidance and procedures which can be found on the Cumbria Safeguarding Children's Partnership website
www.cumbriasafeguardingchildren.co.uk

What is Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)?

Child sexual exploitation is when people use the power they have over young people to sexually abuse them. This increased power may result from a difference in age, gender, intellect, strength, money or other resources which can be used to their advantage.

People often think of child sexual exploitation in terms of serious organised crime, but it also covers abuse within relationships and may involve informal exchanges of sex for something a child wants or needs, such as accommodation, gifts, cigarettes or attention. Some children are 'groomed' through 'boyfriends' who then force the child or young person into having sex with friends or associates.

Sexual abuse covers penetrative sexual acts, sexual touching, masturbation and misuse of sexual images, for example on the internet or by mobile phone.

Part of the challenge of tackling child sexual exploitation is that the children and young people involved may not understand that non-consensual sex (sex they haven't agreed too) or forced sex – including oral sex – is rape.

Children at risk of sexual exploitation are some of the most vulnerable in our society. Many have experienced abandonment or have suffered from physical and mental abuse. They need help but don't know where to look.

Common signs of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

- Going missing for periods of time or regularly returning home late
- Skipping Organisation or being disruptive in class
- Receiving unexplained gifts or possessions that are not accounted for
- Experiencing health problems that may indicate a sexually transmitted infection
- Mood swings and changes in temperament

- Using drugs and alcohol
- Displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviours, such as over familiarity with strangers, dressing in a sexualised manner or sending sexualised images by mobile phones (sexting)
- Signs of unexplained physical harm such as bruising or cigarette marks

Randar Education Managers and staff team must be aware and alert to such behaviours and indicators and must do all they can to create an environment which encourages children to be open about their past or present attitudes and behaviours and which demonstrates they will be supported to guide them away from such lifestyles.

Environment and Positive Relationships

Randar Education is a safe environment for young people, with consistent care from staff that are committed to being very welcoming and approachable to young people. Hopefully this means that young people may feel able to discuss their feelings and share their problems with staff they trust. Randar Education is a small provision and therefore staff are able to build trusting relationships, as well as getting to know young people and being able to monitor changes, in behaviour patterns, receiving gifts and other things which could be a key indicator of CSE.

Having said that, relevant people must be informed of any incidents or discovery of past or present Sexual Exploitation (see Randar Education Safeguarding Procedure) which means that secrecy or confidentiality can never be promised to a young person, as; the best possible outcome for the young person will be achieved through information sharing and partnership working.

Referral Procedure

As part of the stringent Randar Education referral procedure, management will work together with the placing authority/school in order to ensure the best possible tailored care for each young person within the organisation.

One of the initial questions asked to the placing body surround any current, on-going or past safeguarding issues, including whether the young person has ever been involved in or at risk of CSE. If the answer to this is yes, further information will be requested.

From this position, Randar Education management will compile a Personal Risk Assessment. This will include any information of CSE, if necessary, and the safety measures that can be put in place to reduce the risk as far as possible. The young person's risk assessment will be updated regularly.

In addressing these behaviours consideration must be given to the extent to which the child is suffering significant harm and whether it is necessary to refer the child under Child Protection Procedures in the area where the child is living. Follow the Safeguarding procedure.

Education around CSE

Staff will broach the subject of CSE with young people, informal education – use of videos/images etc.

Staff Training

All staff at Randar Education will undertake basic CSE training and will therefore recognise the signs and symptoms of exploitation.

Procedures to follow

If a child is engaged or suspected to being sexually exploited, the CSCP procedures for the area in which Randar Education is located (Cumbria) should be followed: Staff members should be familiar with and able to follow the Randar Education Safeguarding Procedure.

www.cumbriasafeguardingchildrenpartnership.co.uk