

PROTECT AND RESPECT

Protective and preventative services for children who have been, or are at risk of being, sexually exploited.

What is Protect and Respect?

A new service for young people aged 11-19 who have been, or are at risk of being, sexually exploited.

The service will also specifically support young people who:

- have been separated or trafficked
- are unaccompanied and seeking asylum
- are in care
- are frequently 'missing'.

An assessment will be carried out by specialist NSPCC practitioners who have been trained and are qualified to work with young people who have been sexually exploited.

The service is provided at no cost to referring agencies or young people. The NSPCC's work is funded by public donations, and Protect and Respect is part of a range of services we have developed to help protect the UK's most vulnerable children from abuse.



What will happen

PREVENTATIVE WORK

NSPCC staff will help young people to understand what sexual exploitation is, spot the warning signs and know their rights.

Children will be helped to access services around sexual health, housing, faith and/or education.

PROTECTIVE WORK

NSPCC staff undertake an assessment of risk with the young person and help them to develop a tailored intervention plan, including one-to-one and group work.

The service will work with young people for up to six months, and sometimes longer if there are good reasons for doing this.

At the end of this work, we hope that:

- young people have a greater insight into sexual exploitation and the grooming process
- young people are more resilient to sexual exploitation
- the police may have pursued criminal actions against the alleged perpetrators.

Referring young people

- The service is open to all young people aged 11-19 who have been, or are at risk of being, sexually exploited.
- The service also specifically supports young people who have been separated or trafficked, looked after children, and those who go missing – as long as there is also a concern the young person is at risk of sexual exploitation or has been sexually exploited.
- The young person must be willing to engage with the service.

Confidentiality statement

The NSPCC acknowledges that keeping children safe from harm requires professionals and others to share information. It also recognises the need to balance that principle with the need for adults, children and young people to share confidences while retaining a measure of control over how sensitive information is processed and shared. The NSPCC seeks to work in partnership with those who hold parental responsibility, unless this would be contrary to the best interests of the child or young person.

What the NSPCC does

The NSPCC is the UK's leading charity specialising in child protection and the prevention of cruelty to children. Part of achieving this vision is to work to prevent abuse by identifying children who are high risk. By working with young people who have been sexually exploited, or who are at risk, to educate them and help them build coping strategies, we aim to reduce the harm to children.

How to refer

Contact your local NSPCC service centre manager on:

NSPCC Service Centre
1 The Spires
Adelaide Street
Luton LU1 5BB