



Child trafficking

‘Child trafficking is a very serious issue which can have a devastating and lasting impact on its victims. Children can be trafficked into, within and out of the UK.’

- Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by means of threat, force, abduction, deception, fraud, abuse of power or a position of vulnerability
- For the purpose of exploitation including prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs
- Any child transported for exploitative reasons is considered to be a victim of trafficking even if they have not been forced or deceived. This is because it is not considered possible for a child to give informed consent. Some children believe it is the ‘right’ thing to do as they are doing what their parents/accompanying adults say
- A child is anyone under the age of 18



The problem of child trafficking

- CEOP (child exploitation online protection centre) indicate that there are approximately 300 victims per annum
- Sexual exploitation, domestic service, labour, benefit fraud, criminal activity, cannabis farms, family work
- Factors that make children vulnerable:
 - Poverty
 - Lack of education
 - Decimation
 - Cultural attitudes
 - Grooming
 - Dysfunctional families
 - Political conflict

How children are recruited and controlled

- Confiscating a child's identity documents
- Threatening to report the child to the authorities
- Violence or threats of violence
- Keeping the child socially isolated
- Keeping the child locked up
- Telling them they owe large amounts of money they have to then work to pay off
- Depriving the child of money/food
- Frightening the child with cultural or religious threats

All children who are exploited are likely to suffer some form of mental harm and are often abused and neglected

Indicators of trafficking

- Receives unexplained phone calls
- History has gaps within it
- Missing from care/home
- Limited freedom of movement
- Beggars for money
- Performs excessive chores
- Is cared for by adults who are not their parents (private fostering)
- Is not registered with a GP
- Is not enrolled in school

**This links directly with CME and the importance of reporting students missing from your lesson
If you have any concerns – Contact DSL Team or directly to MASH (Customer First)**