

Our Ref: CF/TJ

Your Ref:

25 November 2014



Nottinghamshire
SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN Board

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Dear Parent or Carer

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and parental/carer awareness

I write with regard to the sensitive but important subject of child sexual exploitation (CSE). This is a topic which you may have seen or heard about through the national and local media, and which has featured in storylines on television dramas such as EastEnders and Casualty.

The numbers of children we are aware of as being either at risk of, or actually being, sexually exploited, are relatively small. However, we do want to be proactive in helping parents and carers to be aware of the risks that their children may meet, either face to face or through social media and the internet.

The Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board has therefore decided to write directly to all parents and carers, of secondary aged children within the County, via their schools and academies. I wish to alert you to a free on-line learning course which has been designed specifically for parents and carers by a national charity called [Parents against Child Sexual Exploitation \(PACE\)](#).

I would encourage you to complete their short introduction to the issue. To access this course, you can go to their website <http://www.paceuk.info/the-problem/keep-them-safe/> and follow the simple registration process.

The material itself is brief, easy to navigate, and is not graphic in any way. It sensitively provides information about the warning signs of CSE, and also gives information on what to do if you are concerned about your child, or indeed any child. The ultimate aim is to prevent children being exploited, or for adults to recognise at an early stage that there is a potential problem. The information also gives ideas about who can help in the event of a concern.

If you are concerned that your child is at risk of being sexually exploited then you can contact Children's Social Care at the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0300 500 80 80. In an emergency you can of course contact the Police. You are also able to discuss your child with a member of staff at school if you have any worries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Few".

Chris Few
Independent Chair
Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board

Working in Partnership to Safeguard Children & Young People