

Have your say

It is important for people at the meeting to understand your views. You may feel angry and upset because of what is happening. Or you may not think you are being exploited or at risk. Before the meeting, your social worker will talk to you about how you feel. You could also write something down and ask them to read out your message at the meeting.

What can I do?

You are not to blame if this is happening to you. The adults who have taken advantage of you are responsible and they are the people who have done something wrong. They might have told you it is your fault and you will get in trouble, but that is just a lie to frighten you.

If you are worried about another young person or if you think you have been sexually exploited you should talk to an adult you trust straight away.

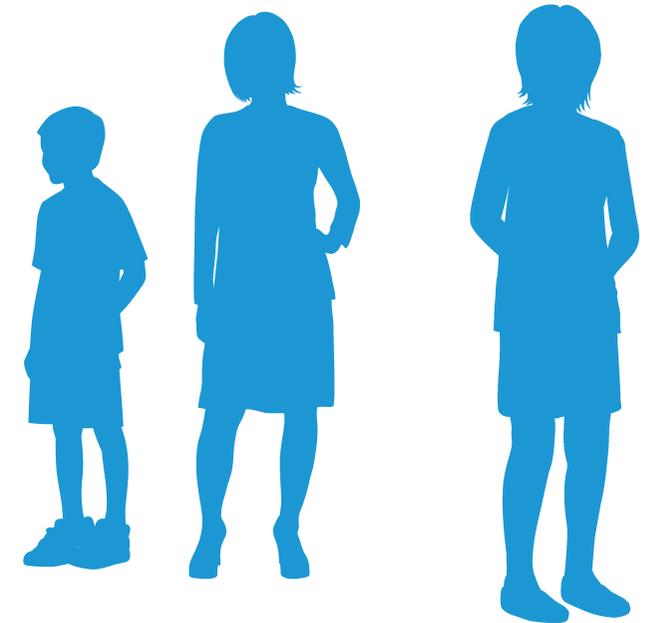
We have set up a special team to support children and young people who have been sexually exploited called the Kingfisher Team. You can ring the team directly on **01865 335276**. There are social workers, family support workers and police officers in the team.

If you think a child is at immediate risk call 999

For confidential support and advice on sexual exploitation call the Kingfisher Team

Tel: 01865 335276

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/saferchildren



This document can be supplied in alternative formats, please contact:

Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board

Tel: 01865 815843

www.oscb.org.uk



WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOU

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WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOU

Does this sound like you?

- You are friends with adults.
- You have an older boyfriend or girlfriend.
- You stay out late or all night.
- You don't stay in with your family or spend as much time with your old friends as you did.
- You have lost contact with friends.
- You don't go to school.
- You've tried and use drugs and alcohol.
- You are chatting to people online who you have never met.

If you can tick some of the boxes you are at risk of being sexually exploited.



What is sexual exploitation?

Sexual exploitation means swapping sex for things like drugs, alcohol, cigarettes and other presents; or selling sex for money. You may feel you have to have sex because an adult gives you something, or because they threaten or frighten you.

Some young people may want to be touched sexually or have sex because they think the adult is their boyfriend or girlfriend but they are not – they are adults wanting to abuse the young person. Sexual abusers can be women or men.

How does it happen?

We know from experience that some adults draw young people just like you into sexual relationships. They are not really your friends.

This is how it can happen:

- Adults you meet show you a lot of interest and affection at the beginning and make you feel special
- Sometimes boyfriends or girlfriends can introduce you to these adults
- Sometimes these adults take you or groups of young people to their house or to parties
- They may offer you drugs, alcohol and a place to chill out
- They may even buy you presents like clothes or a mobile phone, or give you money to buy things like cigarettes

- When they have gained your trust and affection they may change how they act around you
- They will ask you for sex or to touch you sexually in return for alcohol, drugs, presents, money etc. All the things they previously gave you for free.
- They stop being nice and can become threatening and violent.

What happens next?

People are worried about you and that is why you have this leaflet. Either your parents or carers, or a professional like a teacher, doctor or social worker has noticed the warning signs. They are worried you may be on the path to sexual exploitation.

A meeting will be arranged so everyone who is concerned about you can talk about how you can be helped and protected.

A social worker will come and talk to you and your parents or carers about why they are worried about you and what you and the adults can do to keep you safe.

At the meeting there will be someone taking notes and everyone will receive a copy, including you. A plan will be made to keep you safe.

Another meeting will be arranged so that we can all check how we are getting on with the plan.

