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Description automatically generatedNorthamptonshire CERAF**

Child Exploitation Risk

Assessment Framework

*The CERAF is a tool to be used for young people who are at risk of, or who are currently being, exploited*

*& will support identification of risk areas to be addressed and next steps*

***Children that come to notice must be treated as children, whatever the circumstances they find themselves in.***

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| **Child / Young Person Name:** |  |
| **Any other names the Child/Young Person is knows as or answers to:** |  |
| **Date of Birth (Age):** |  |
| **Gender:** |  |
| **Ethnicity:** |  |
| **Legal Status: (e.g. S20, ICO, Foster Care or Care Facility)** |  |
| **Education Status: (e.g. FT Education, PT Education, CME, NEET etc)** |  |
| **Place of education:**  **Attendance:** |  |
| **Languages spoken:** |  |
| **Refugee/Asylum Seeker Status:** |  |
| **Does the child have any communication need or a diagnosed disability:** |  |
| **If other agencies are involved please list them here e.g. CAMHS, Child & Family Support Service (CFSS) etc.** |  |
| **Has the Child / Young Person previously been a victim of exploitation?** |  |

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| **Name of person completing form:** |  |
| **Organisation / Team:** |  |
| **Who has assisted in the completion of this risk assessment? E.g. involved professionals, family members, child** |  |
| **Date of completion:** |  |

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| **Vulnerabilities**  **(Low Risk Indicators)** | Please tick  **Score 1 each** | **Provide details of all Vulnerabilities identified** |
| Emotional neglect by parent/carer/family member |  |  |
| Physical abuse by parent/carer/family member |  |  |
| Sexual abuse |  |  |
| Breakdown of family relationships |  |  |
| Family history of domestic abuse |  |  |
| Family history of substance misuse |  |  |
| Family history of mental health difficulties |  |  |
| Low self-esteem |  |  |
| Unsuitable/inappropriate accommodation |  |  |
| Isolated from peers/social networks |  |  |
| Lack of positive relationship with a protective/nurturing adult |  |  |
| Child has diagnosed physical and/or learning disability |  |  |

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| **Summary of Evidence for Low Risk Indicators:** |
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| **Medium Risk Indicators** | Tick if present **during the past 3 months**  **Score 1 each** | **Provide details of all indicators identified** |
| Regularly staying out late (This may include periods of staying out all day and whereabouts unknown) |  |  |
| Multiple callers (unknown adults/older young people) |  |  |
| Use of a mobile phone that causes concern (e.g. multiple phones, contact from unknown / concerning people) |  |  |
| Expressions of despair (e.g. self-harm, overdose, eating disorder, challenging behaviour, aggression, carrying weapons, other sudden change in wellbeing) |  |  |
| Exclusion from school or unexplained absences from or not engaged in school / college / training / work (to include during school day). |  |  |
| Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), pregnancy/termination of pregnancy |  |  |
| Drug / Alcohol use |  |  |
| Use of the internet that causes concern (e.g. coerced to take/share indecent images; dealing drugs; selling stolen goods; use of the ‘Dark Web’) |  |  |
| Living independently and failing to respond to attempts by worker to keep in touch |  |  |

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| **Summary of Evidence for Medium Risk Indicators:** |
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| **High Risk Indicators**  (Exploitation linked not intrafamilial abuse) | Tick if present **between 3 and 6 months ago**  **Score 1 each** | Tick if present **during past 3 months**  **Score 5 each** | **Provide details of all indicators identified** |
| Disclosure of sexual/physical assault (which may be followed by withdrawal of allegation) |  |  |  |
| Peers suspected/known to be being sexually or criminally exploited |  |  |  |
| Periods of going missing overnight or longer, sustained increase in missing episodes |  |  |  |
| Relationship/s with older or controlling individual / group (e.g. older boy/girlfriend, gang / organised crime group) |  |  |  |
| Physical abuse by controlling person / physical injury without plausible explanation |  |  |  |
| Emotional abuse by controlling person |  |  |  |
| Entering/leaving vehicles driven by unknown people  (**not** taking and driving away: car theft) |  |  |  |
| Unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothing or other items |  |  |  |
| Frequenting areas known for sexual / criminal exploitation / associated with county lines (e.g. “trap houses”) |  |  |  |
| Travelling / located out of area without plausible explanation / known link; arrested out of area (especially for drug related offences) |  |  |  |
| Child found with large quantities of Class A/B drugs or suspected of/involved in the movement and selling of drugs |  |  |  |
| Child involved in robberies/thefts with no or limited signs of personal gain |  |  |  |
| Child has a drug debt (and is likely to be at risk if unpaid) |  |  |  |
| Child is under 13 and there is at least 1 High risk factor present:  **Consider Child Protection Processes/HRSM** | | **Score 5** |  |

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| **Summary of Evidence for High Risk Indicators:** |
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| **Protective factors & strengths:**  *What’s working well? To include strengths identified within the family or community:* |
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| **Safety measures & disruption:**  *What has been tried so far to reduce the exploitation risk?* |
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| **Please detail below any of the following you feel are linked to the risk of exploitation** | | | |
| **Relationships**  *(Please include all names and DOB’s, if known)* | **Peer Groups**  *(Please include all names and DOB’s, if known)* | **Locations**  *(Please provide details)* | **Settings**  *(Please provide details)* |
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| **Childs / Young Persons Views:**  *What are the child’s views on safety, perception of risk and push / pull factors* |
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| **Parents / Carers Views:**  *What are the parents / carers views on safety, perception of risk and push / pull factors* |
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| **Professional Judgement: THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED**   * *Consider* ***all*** *information and refer to risk categories below* * *The score is only a guideline.* * *Identify the level of risk you consider the child to be at currently and explain why.* |
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| **TOTAL CERAF SCORE:** |  |

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| **RISK LEVEL** |  | **Not at risk - child may be ‘in need’ but grooming / exploitation not current concern**  (Score guideline 0 – 5) |
|  | **Low Risk – child is vulnerable / susceptible to grooming / exploitation**  (Score guideline **6 – 10**) |
|  | **Medium Risk – a number of warning signs suggesting child is at risk of opportunistic exploitation** (Score guideline **11 – 15**) |
|  | **High Risk – strong indicators / evidence that child is currently experiencing exploitation harm** (Score guideline **16+**) |

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| **What is the known/suspected exploitation risk: You may tick more than one:** | |
| **KNOWN** | **Sexual  Criminal  County Lines** |
| **SUSPECTED** | **Sexual  Criminal  County Lines** |

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| **Are there reasonable grounds to suspect this child has been trafficked or a victim of forced labour?** | **Yes  No** | **If yes –** Child Protection Procedures & [National Referral Mechanism](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms/guidance-on-the-national-referral-mechanism-for-potential-adult-victims-of-modern-slavery-england-and-wales) form **must** be completed. |
| **If yes - is the trafficking internal, or international?** | **Internal** e.g. moved within town/city or UK  **Abroad** e.g. separated orUnaccompanied Asylum Seeker | |

**CERAF Risk Categories & Actions**

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| **CERAF Risk category** | **Actions** |
| **Not at risk** | * Educate young person to stay safe. * Seek to address vulnerability factors. * Review risk following any significant change in circumstances. * Update intervention/support plan if in place. |
| **Low Risk** | When there is a low level of risk, the threshold for Police or Social Care involvement is unlikely to be met, where this is in isolation of other safeguarding concerns, or the child is not looked after. The CERAF should be regularly reviewed and should concerns increase a referral should be made to social care.  A team around the family meeting could be initiated through Early Help processes if this would be helpful and the family agree to this. There are also a range of universal and preventative services available that can be referred to. |
| **If the CERAF outcome is Medium or High risk and the child is not open to Children’s Services – contact the MASH to discuss / report the safeguarding concerns with a copy of this assessment.** [**Report a concern (nctrust.co.uk)**](https://www.nctrust.co.uk/protecting-children-information-for-professionals/Pages/report-a-concern.aspx) | |
| **Medium Risk** | Any young person recorded with a medium or high-risk outcome should be referred immediately to MASH. MASH will screen this referral and determine whether a single assessment and strategy meeting needs to be convened by the Duty and Assessment team. |
| **High Risk** |