



## Child Trafficking Indicators Community Services

The following information is intended to act as a prompt to help workers identify areas that might indicate child trafficking. This is not a comprehensive list of indicators, and should be read in line with the CPC Inter Agency Guidance for Child Trafficking.

If a worker has a suspicion that a child has been trafficked, they should discuss this *immediately* with their line manager. They should make reference to the National Referral Mechanism form and matrix and follow the procedure in the CPC Inter Agency Guidance for Child Trafficking.

Area	What to look for
<b>Exploitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illegal employment (or no NI number or wage slips)</li> <li>• Child located in place of exploitation, or location likely to be used for exploiting people</li> <li>• Child claims to have been exploited, or owes money (eg for travel or daily living costs)</li> <li>• Child dependant on employer for services such as work, accommodation, travel</li> <li>• Employer deducts living costs from earnings</li> <li>• Child deprived of earnings or required to earn minimum daily amount</li> <li>• Child has little or no choice in working arrangements</li> <li>• Child has little or no awareness of employment rights/law</li> </ul>

<b>Don't Forget!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trafficked children are at high risk of going missing - concerns must be dealt with immediately</li> <li>• Overt probing/investigation into the child's circumstances may heighten risk of disappearance – this requires multi-agency response</li> <li>• Children are unlikely to disclose and have been groomed not to tell</li> <li>• Copies should always be taken of any identification of adult and child/ren, and wherever possible this should be photographic identification</li> <li>• Traffickers may divert attention of authorities by providing accounts of being on holiday, or plans to shortly return home or to another locality</li> <li>• Traffickers often pose as relatives</li> <li>• Always record all addresses, names and contact details – home and holiday, addresses of relatives/friends being visited</li> <li>• Where there are concerns of trafficking, the child must be spoken to away from adult/carer (who must not be used to interpret)</li> <li>• Accounts provided by child/adult should be compared and any inconsistencies carefully scrutinised.</li> </ul>
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Thanks to Harrow Local Safeguarding Board  
for use of their agency guides

Area	What to look for
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works excessively long hours over long periods, no days off</li> <li>• May be working under an informal 'training' agreement</li> <li>• Indications of sexual exploitation (sex work type clothing, language limited to sex related words, does not smile)</li> <li>• Child may perform excessive housework chores or be restricted in their freedom</li> <li>• Underage marriage</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of toys or children's items in inappropriate places such as factories, brothels</li> <li>• Hazardous working or poor safety conditions</li> <li>• Poor/substandard accommodation</li> <li>• May live and work in the same place</li> <li>• Notices posted in languages other than local language</li> <li>• No health and safety notices</li> <li>• Evidence of breach of labour laws</li> <li>• Employer unable to provide records of wages paid to employees</li> </ul>
<b>Movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entered country illegally</li> <li>• Works in various locations</li> <li>• History of missing links or unexplained moves</li> <li>• Registered at multiple or 'hot' addresses</li> <li>• Claims to be here on holiday or visiting relatives/friends in the area</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indicators of abuse/neglect</li> <li>• Physical indications of work – tiredness; manual labour – back aches, calloused hands, skin irritations, headaches, respiratory problems</li> </ul>
<b>Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carer is not immediate family member or legal guardian – may insist on staying with child at all times</li> <li>• Suspicion that relationship between adult and</li> </ul>

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	<p>child is not as claimed (ie does not appear to be a close relative despite claims)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of unrelated children in household</li> <li>• Child is treated differently to other children in household</li> <li>• Different children may be seen in household on different home visits</li> <li>• Child is never in when you visit</li> <li>• Unregistered private fostering arrangement</li> <li>• Conflicting accounts provided by child or adult (relationships, child's background, length of time in UK)</li> <li>• Adult unable to provide identification documents for child</li> <li>• Documentation that is false, altered or fraudulently obtained</li> </ul>
<b>Behaviour/ Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child appears younger than stated age</li> <li>• May be inadequately dressed for work (ie no protective or warm clothing)</li> <li>• Child has been in the UK for some time but not enrolled in education or does not speak English</li> <li>• Has been in UK for some time but not familiar with local area or culture</li> <li>• Child exhibits maturity not expected for her/his age</li> <li>• Child may appear fearful or uncomfortable in presence of adult/carer/employer</li> <li>• Child may appear coached, or to act under the instruction of someone</li> <li>• Child withdrawn/appears afraid to talk to people in authority</li> <li>• Child has excessive fears/anxieties</li> <li>• Unable or reluctant to provide details</li> <li>• Allows others to speak for them when addressed directly</li> </ul>