

**Don't Forget!**

- Trafficked children are at high risk of going missing
- Concerns must be dealt with immediately
- Children are unlikely to disclose and have been groomed not to tell
- Overt probing/investigation into the child's circumstances may heighten risk of disappearance – this requires multi-agency response
- Copies should always be taken of any identification of adult and child/ren, and wherever possible this should be photographic identification
- Traffickers often pose as relatives
- Traffickers may divert attention of authorities by providing accounts of being on holiday, or plans to shortly return home or to another locality
- Always record all addresses, names and contact details – home and holiday, addresses of relatives/friends being visited
- Where there are concerns of trafficking, the child must be spoken to away from adult/carer (who must not be used to interpret)
- Accounts provided by child/adult should be compared and any inconsistencies carefully scrutinised

Thanks to Harrow Local Safeguarding Board  
for use of their agency guides



## Child Trafficking Indicators A&E and Urgent Care Centres

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
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Untreated injury/medical condition (unexplained delay in treatment)</li><li>• Indications of abuse/neglect (see Inter Agency CP Guidelines)</li><li>• Not registered with GP</li><li>• Use of different doctors, A&amp;E departments</li><li>• Evidence of substance misuse</li></ul>

Area	What to look for
<b>Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult presenting with child 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 child is not as claimed (i.e. does not appear to be a close relative despite claims)</li> <li>• Unregistered private fostering arrangement</li> <li>• Underage marriage</li> <li>• Conflicting accounts provided by child or adult (health, relationships, place of residence, length of time in the country)</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 has been in the UK for some time but not enrolled in education or does not speak English</li> <li>• Child exhibits maturity not expected for his/her age</li> <li>• Child may appear fearful or uncomfortable in presence of adult/carer</li> <li>• Child may appear coached, or to act under the instruction of someone</li> </ul>

Area	What to look for
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 – address, medical history, cause of injury, relationships in household</li> <li>• Indications of trauma</li> </ul>
<b>Movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entered country illegally</li> <li>• History of missing links or unexplained moves</li> <li>• Registered at multiple addresses</li> <li>• Claims to be here on holiday or visiting relatives/friends in the area</li> </ul>
<b>Exploitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child claims to have been exploited, or owes money (e.g. for travel costs)</li> <li>• Physical indications of work – tiredness, manual labour – back aches, calloused hands, skin irritations, headaches, respiratory problems (consider hazardous working conditions, poor safety conditions)</li> <li>• Indications of sexual exploitation, STI or unwanted pregnancy</li> </ul>