

## Safeguarding newsletter- November 2024

Nightclub Safety and Sexual Abuse.

Transgender Awareness Month



### Definitions

**Sexual violence** is rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault or causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent.

**Sexual harassment** is unwanted conduct of a sexual nature.

**Harmful sexual behaviour** is problematic, abusive and violent behaviour by a child/young person that is developmentally inappropriate and may cause developmental damage.

**Adapted from Keeping Children Safe in Education**



The Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges, Ofsted 2021 found that nearly 90% of girls, and nearly 50% of boys, said being sent explicit pictures or videos of things they did not want to see happens a lot or sometimes to them or their peers. Also, 92% of girls, and 74% of boys, said sexist name-calling happens a lot or sometimes to them or their peers. The frequency of these harmful sexual behaviours means that some children and young people consider them normal.

In England, Wales and Scotland, the three nations for which data is available, around 90 per cent of recorded offences of rape against a 13- to 15-year-old were against girls (How safe are our children, NSPCC 2020).

It should also be noted that children/young people who are, or are perceived to be lesbian, gay, bi, or trans (LGBT) can be targeted by other children, and children/young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are more likely to be abused than children/young people without additional needs.

All our children/young people have a right to grow up safe from abuse and harassment. Education settings are central to framing a safe ethos and creating safe spaces for children/young people to explore healthy relationships, and there is a duty on settings to ensure they take action to keep children/young people safe. The concern around the level sexual violence and sexual harassment in schools led to the government publishing a review into sexual abuse in schools and colleges in June 2021. This led to specific government advice being developed which was then incorporated into the statutory guidance **Keeping Children Safe in Education**.

There is a strong movement to safeguard children and young people from harm by changing expectations, challenging unacceptable behaviour and improving children and young people's knowledge and understanding of healthy relationships.

## **What is Sexual Abuse?**

Sexual abuse includes several coerced sexual acts.

Examples of sexual abuse include:

- Rape.
- Indecent exposure.
- Sexual harassment.
- Inappropriate looking or touching.
- Sexual teasing or innuendo.
- Sexual photography.

This form of abuse can also include subjecting someone to pornography, or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure, or sexual assault.

The factor that links all these examples is that the person does not consent, or they felt pressured into consenting.

## **Who Might Sexually Abuse Adults?**

Anyone who meets adults could potentially resort to sexual abuse. This includes:

- Spouses, friends, family, and neighbours.
- Paid staff or professionals.
- Volunteers.
- Strangers and other members of the public.

Even those employed to provide care might carry out sexual abuse.

A major reason why sexual abuse is such a difficult issue is that literally anyone can become an abuser. All it takes is one instance of sexual abuse for it to become a problem.

## Nightclubs and 'going out out'



The safety initiative 'Ask for Angela' is being rolled out to bars, clubs, and other licensed businesses. People who feel unsafe, vulnerable, or threatened can discreetly seek help by approaching venue staff and asking them for 'Angela'. This code-phrase will indicate to staff that they require help with their situation and a trained member of staff will then look to support and assist them. This might be through reuniting them with a friend, seeing them to a taxi, or by calling venue security and/or the police.

'Ask for Angela' was originally developed by Lincolnshire County Council and adopted by the Met in 2016 as a localised initiative by its police licensing officers. The introduction of Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE) training in 2017 underpinned the delivery of Ask for Angela and more venues began to take on the initiative.

Organisations can receive WAVE training through the Safer Sounds Partnership or via their local licensing team. The training explores what vulnerability is, how to identify it and appropriate interventions. A range of online assets and webinars are available.

**<https://www.saferounds.org.uk/wave>**

**Podcast from radio 4 (35 mins)**

[File on 4: Drink spiking on Apple Podcasts](#)

## Prevent Duty

The **Prevent duty** is the duty in the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 on specified authorities to have due regard for the need to prevent people from being groomed by extremists. All individuals and organisations who are involved in the Further Education and Training sector need to be aware of the Prevent duty and their responsibilities with respect to this.

Learners in WBL environments are subject to similar expectations regarding the promotion of British values as those in classroom-based environments. This is something that is rigorously tested during Ofsted inspections. The use of themed events and inputs throughout the calendar is one useful way of responding to this and gives the added value of consistency across a provider's learner cohort. Also reacting to and using local, national or international events is equally useful to demonstrate British values to learners in real life. British Values programmes that are integrated into learning and not treated as 'add-ons' tend to be better received and more successful.

Ofsted expect to see British values integrated into the curriculum and training so that learners can identify where British values are relevant to their work and everyday lives. Individual learners may be asked during inspections how British values relate to their studies or training.

### **ETF Side by side training:**

[https://www.etflearners.org.uk/?\\_gl=1\\*\\_zpgtz\\*\\_ga\\*MTQzNDYwMTg2Mi4xNjk4NzQ4NjA2\\*\\_ga\\_6F0PEMWK3W\\*MTY5OTQ0OTAzNC4xLjEuMTY5OTQ0OTA0NS40OS4wLjA](https://www.etflearners.org.uk/?_gl=1*_zpgtz*_ga*MTQzNDYwMTg2Mi4xNjk4NzQ4NjA2*_ga_6F0PEMWK3W*MTY5OTQ0OTAzNC4xLjEuMTY5OTQ0OTA0NS40OS4wLjA).

### **BV video 7.27mins**

<https://youtu.be/U9cqHsiE0vM?si=0rUNYfSKCqid-of->

### **Radicalisation clip 7.45 mins**

<https://youtu.be/tzS2q9roMxc?si=uPiuiLss1vcf24h5>

**This month includes Transgender Awareness Week (November 13-19) and culminates in Transgender Day of Remembrance (November 20), a day to honour the lives lost to anti-transgender violence.**

A time to celebrate, honour, and stand up for our community and our transgender, non-binary, and/or gender-diverse (TGD) friends, family, and neighbours as we work to raise awareness, foster understanding, and celebrate the TGD community's rich tapestry of experiences.

### **Want to know more about transgender people?**

The term 'transgender', or more commonly known as 'trans', is an umbrella term used to describe a person whose gender identity is not the same as the sex they were assigned at birth.

Trans may also include non-binary people who do not fall into the binary categories of man/woman or male/female. Non-binary people may feel they are not exclusively male or female and may embody elements of both.

Being transgender does not imply any specific sexual orientation. A trans person can be gay, straight, bisexual, lesbian or any other sexual orientation. You cannot tell if a person is trans just by looking at them; trans people do not look a certain way or come from any one background.

### **What can you do to support the trans community?**

The best thing you can do to support any trans people in your life, or the trans community overall, is to educate yourself about what it means to be transgender.

Have conversations with trans people in your life and seek out further resources and information. There's a wealth of content online which will help you to understand how you can be a real ally.

Above all, remember that everyone, from all walks of life no matter how they choose to identify themselves, is worthy of respect. Even if you don't yet have a full understanding about what it means to be trans.

Are you questioning your own identity or know someone else who needs advice or local support?

There are lots of online and local resources out there to help in addition to college:

Mermaids UK – support helpline on 0808 801 0400

Stonewall – LGBTQIA+ mental health support charity

MindOut – LGBTQ mental health support charity

TransOxford – a local transgender support group in Oxford

Oxford Friend – a local transgender support group in Oxford

My Umbrella – a local transgender support group in Reading

Support U – support, advice and guidance in the Thames Valley

Trans Unite – a national directory for local transgender support groups

Outline Surrey – a local transgender support group in Surrey