According to Working

Together (2015), child sexual abuse: *Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening.*  The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by or non-penetrative acts. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at sexual images or acting in a sexually inappropriate way.

1. Background

Sexual abuse is a personal and destructive crime. Its effects can be psychological, emotional and/or physical, and the damage may last a lifetime.

In England alone, there were 37,778 recorded sexual offences against under 16 year olds in 2015/16. This is a rate of 36.3 sexual offences per 10,000 children aged under 16 - a 23% increase on the previous year. Reporting of both recent and non-recent sexual offences has been increasing for some years following the Jimmy Saville abuse becoming public in 2013.

2. Why it matters

**Child Sexual Abuse**

Live and Learn Sports

Safeguarding Children

Partnership 2020

**Indicators of abuse; -**Bruising, particularly to thighs, buttocks/upper arms/neck

-Torn, stained or bloody under clothing.

-Bleeding/pain/itching in genital area

-Incontinence not related to medical diagnosis

-Pregnancy/sexually transmitted infection in a child

-Difficulty in walking or sitting.

-Irregular or disturbed sleep patterns

-Bed wetting/behaviour change

-Uncharacteristic use of explicit sexual language

-Self-harm & reluctance to being around a certain person.

3. Information

**Further Information;**

1. GM Procedures
2. Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse
3. Seen & heard e-learning
4. Lucy Faithfull foundation
5. Parents protect
6. Child sexual abuse video
7. Facts and statistics/scale of CSA

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7. What to do =

Research shows that children are far more likely to be abused by someone they know than by a stranger.

The most common abuser is a member of the child’s family or a friend or neighbour. In this situation, children are particularly powerless to protect themselves. Many children are abused by older children or adolescents; some of these young people have themselves been abused.

Most children who are abused do not tell anyone about it at the time and many keep the abuse secret throughout their lives.

5. Information

RSCB

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board –

 7-minute Briefing

What is the IICSA?

What is the Truth Project?

Is there any multi agency training available?

How can practitioner’s support children who have been sexually abused?

6. Questions

**Who can perform sexual abuse?**

Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a

form of child sexual abuse.

4. Information