

safenews

JUNE 2025

Bodmin College | Brannel School | Carclaze CP School | Fowey Primary School | Lostwithiel Primary School | Luxulyan School | Mevagissey Primary School | Mount Charles School | Newquay Junior Academy
Newquay Primary Academy | Newquay Tretherras School | Penrice Academy | Poltair School | Pondhu Primary School | Port Isaac Academy | St Mewan CP School



Safeguarding vision at CELT -

- Safeguarding is the golden thread through CELT
- 'it could happen here'
- Ensure that every pupil and young person are heard
- Zero tolerance for discrimination
- Empowerment of our staff
- Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP
ACCOUNTABILITY
CARE SAFEGUARDING EMPOWER
STRENGTHEN IMPROVE
ENABLE EVERYONE VULNERABLE
RESPONSIBILITY

Child Trafficking & Modern Slavery

Child trafficking is child abuse. It’s defined as recruiting, moving, receiving and harbouring children for the purpose of exploitation (HM Department for Education (DfE) and Home Office, 2011; Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and Police Service of Northern Ireland, 2011; Scottish Government, 2013; Wales Safeguarding Procedures Project Board, 2020).

Child trafficking is a form of modern slavery (HM Government, 2014). Many children are trafficked into the UK from overseas, but children can also be trafficked from one part of the UK to another.

Children are trafficked for:

- child sexual exploitation
- criminal activity, including:
- cannabis cultivation
- street crime - such as pickpocketing, begging and bag theft
- moving drugs
- benefit fraud
- immigration fraud
- selling pirated goods, such as DVDs
- forced marriage
- domestic servitude, including:
- cleaning
- childcare
- cooking

forced labour, including working in:

- restaurants
- nail bars
- factories
- agriculture
- illegal adoption
- unreported private fostering arrangements (for any exploitative purpose).



How child trafficking happens

Traffickers may use grooming techniques to gain the trust of a child, family or community. They may trick, force or persuade children to leave their homes.

Child trafficking can involve a network of organised criminals who recruit, transport and exploit children and young people within or across borders. Some people in the network might not be directly involved in trafficking a child but play a part in other ways – such as falsifying documents, bribery, owning or renting premises, or money laundering (Europol, 2011).

Child trafficking can also be organised by individuals and children’s own families.

Signs and indicators

Children who are trafficked are intentionally hidden and isolated from the services and communities who can identify and protect them. While identification may be difficult, there will be signs that you can watch for. Children who have been trafficked or are at risk of being trafficked may:

- have to do excessive housework chores
- rarely leave the house and have limited freedom of movement not have any documents (or have falsified documents)
- give a prepared story which is very similar to stories given by other children
- be unable or reluctant to give details of accommodation or personal details
- not be registered with a school or a GP practice
- have a history with missing links and unexplained moves
- be cared for by adults who are not their parents or carers
- not have a good quality relationship with their adult carers

- be one among a number of unrelated children found at one address
- receive unexplained or unidentified phone calls whilst in a care placement or temporary accommodation (Department for Education and Home Office, 2011).

Responding to child trafficking

Child trafficking is child abuse. It requires a child protection, multi-agency response in line with current legislation.

Reporting

If you think a child is in immediate danger, contact the police on 999. If you’re worried about a child but they are not in immediate danger, you should share your concerns.

Follow CELT child protection procedures.

Contact the NSPCC Helpline on 0800 800 5000 or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk. Our child protection specialists will talk through your concerns with you and give you expert advice.

Contact your local child protection services. Their contact details can be found on the website for the local authority the child lives in.

Contact the police.

Services will risk assess the situation and take action to protect the child as appropriate either through statutory involvement or other support. This may include making a referral to the local authority.



DSLs across the Trust

It’s normal to feel overwhelmed and confused if a child reveals they’re being abused. It’s a challenging subject that can be both difficult to accept and talk about. However, you must be aware of your safeguarding information sharing (or disclosure) responsibilities so you can take the correct course of action to ensure the safety of the child or young person.

Although the abuse could be kept a secret out of fear, children experiencing distress may speak to you as they find you trustworthy and deem the school a safe place. It’s also not unusual for them to choose particular staff members that they feel have less authority or are less intimidating. Remember we are all Emotionally Available Adults to our students.

Regardless of your role, if a child approaches you to indicate abuse or disclose harm, your role is to recognise and refer the abuse - not to investigate. Please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team

Trust Safeguarding Lead	Amy Daniels	adaniels@celtrust.org
Safeguarding Trustee	Sally Foard	SFoard@gov.celtrust.org

School	DSL	Email Address
Bodmin	Kym O’Mara Rebecca Soby (operational)	dsl@bodmin.celtrust.org
Brannel	John Doherty	dsl@brannel.com
Carclaze	Amanda Colwill	dsl@car.celtrust.org
Fowey	Natalie Hudd	dsl@fow.celtrust.org
Lostwithiel	Sarah Kriskovic	dsl@los.celtrust.org
Luxulyan	Nathan Cooper	dsl@lux.celtrust.org
Mevagissey	Jo Bailey	dsl@mev.celtrust.org
Mount Charles	Heidi Spurgeon	dsl@mcs.celtrust.org
Newquay Junior	Kate Rose-Lean	dsl@nja.celtrust.org
Newquay Primary	Kate Rose Lean	dsl@npa.celtrust.org
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Penrice	Abby Macdonald Kelly Slipper (operational)	dsl@penrice.org.uk
Poltair	Heidi Spurgeon	dsl@poltair.celtrust.org
Pondhu	Emma Jolliff	dsl@pon.celtrust.org
Port Isaac	Jenny Young	Dsl@pia.celtrust.org
St Mewan	Kay Walker	dsl@stm.celtrust.org
CELT Hub	Andy Egford	dsl@hub.celtrust.org

Children and the Court System

Children and young people can be involved in the courts in several ways. Decisions made by the courts may have life-changing results.

Types of court

In England and Wales there are two types of courts that children and young people are most likely to be involved with: the criminal courts and the family (civil) courts. (There are different courts / laws in Scotland and Northern Ireland.)

Criminal courts

Criminal courts handle cases where individuals are accused of breaking the law, such as robbery, murder and driving offences. Criminal charges against children aged between 10 and 17 are handled by the youth courts. Youth courts are less formal than Crown or Magistrates’ courts. Theft, anti-social behaviour and drug offences are handled in the youth courts, but more serious offences will be passed to the Crown Court.

Family courts

Family courts are part of the civil court system but less formal and handle cases regarding divorce, childcare proceedings and domestic abuse. Family court judges can use their discretion to make decisions that are in the best interests of the child when making a ruling.

Childcare proceedings

There are two types of childcare proceedings:

- **Public law** - where the local authority has made an application to court because of concerns about the care that a child is receiving. In these cases, there should be an allocated social worker and it is likely that there will be ongoing involvement from the local authority once the court order is made.
- **Private law** - where a person has gone to court to resolve an issue within their private

lives and the court has made an order relating to a child, e.g., if parents cannot agree about custody arrangements.

Impact on children and young people

The experience of being involved in a court case can differ from one child to the next, regardless of whether they are the victim, the defendant, a witness or are incidentally involved.

Involvement with the courts can:

- be stressful;
- create feelings of loss of control;
- significantly change a child’s life;
- create unanswered questions;
- cause or entrench conflict within families;
- put individuals at personal risk;
- lead to absence from education.

Supporting children and young people

Children and young people may require emotional support, may need plans in place to protect them from others due to their involvement in a court case and/or may need a regular routine to counter the disruption in their home lives.

It’s important to talk with children/young people and their parents or carers to ensure you have the full story about what is going on in their lives. Only then can you ensure they get the right support when they need it.

Creating spaces in settings where children and young people feel safe and able to speak about how they feel can encourage children to seek help when they need it.

Take action - If you have concerns about a child or young person you know is involved with the court system, speak to your DSL to see what extra support can be provided that is tailored to meet their individual needs.

TRAINING THIS MONTH