



## Children are being exploited by gangs involved in drug crime.

### Know the signs to spot.

County lines gangs use children to courier drugs and money across the country. Children are targeted for recruitment by these gangs in public spaces, such as shopping centres and high streets.

Have you seen:



A child, sometimes as young as 12, alone in a shopping centre or high street either during school hours or unusual hours (early in the morning, late at night)?



Are they obviously being approached or intimidated by a controlling, peer or group?



They could be receiving excessive texts or phone calls



They might seem unfamiliar with the local area, or not have a local accent?



Are they deliberately avoiding authority figures such as police officers or security guards?



Some may be with older individuals who are purchasing tickets for them or giving them money for tickets.

**If you spot a vulnerable young person you should immediately take steps to safeguard the young person in line with your company's safeguarding policies.**



Home Office

Working in partnership with

**CrimeStoppers.**