



Department
for Education

Care for unaccompanied and trafficked children

**Draft regulations and statutory guidance for
local authorities on the care of
unaccompanied asylum seeking and
trafficked children**

January 2014

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Introduction

1. Unaccompanied asylum seeking children and child victims of human trafficking are some of the most vulnerable children in the country. They are alone, in an unfamiliar country and are likely to be surrounded by people unable to speak their first language. They may have experienced emotional trauma in their country of birth, or in their journey to the UK. They can be at risk of going missing, of returning to their traffickers, and of being exploited for sex, forced labour, domestic servitude or criminal activities. They are likely to be uncertain or unaware of who to trust or of their rights. They may be unaware of their right to have a childhood.

2. The local authority providing for their care has a duty to protect and support these potentially vulnerable children. Because of the circumstances they have faced, unaccompanied and trafficked children often have complex needs in addition to those faced by looked after children in general. The special support required to address these needs must begin as soon as the child comes into local authority care. It will be most effective where this support is provided through a stable, continuous relationship with the child.

3. This guidance sets out the steps local authorities should take to plan for the provision of support to unaccompanied asylum seeking children and child victims of trafficking who are looked after children. It does not provide detailed guidance on steps that local authorities should take, in partnership with other agencies, to identify and protect trafficked children before they become looked after. This is described in practice guidance *Safeguarding Children who may have been trafficked*, published by the Department for Education and Home Office in 2011.

4. This guidance should be read alongside The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations, Volume 2: Care Planning, Placement and Case Review; and, Volume 3: Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers.

Status of this guidance

5. This guidance is issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, which requires local authorities in exercising their social services functions to act under the general guidance of the Secretary of State. This guidance must be complied with by local authorities when exercising these functions, unless there are exceptional reasons which justify a departure.

Who is this guidance for?

6. The guidance is addressed to Chief Executives, Directors of Children's Services and Lead Members for Children's Services. It will be of interest to Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) Chairs, Home Office, as well as social care professionals, police, health, education and youth offender services practitioners and those who care for looked after children.

Definitions used in this guidance

7. The terms below are used throughout this document with the following definitions:

- *Child*: anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. Note that, where the person's age is in doubt, they must be treated as a child unless, and until, a full age assessment shows the person to be an adult.
- *Unaccompanied child; unaccompanied asylum seeking child*: a child who is under 18 years of age when the application for asylum is submitted, is applying in their own right and is separated from both parents and is not being cared for by an adult who in law or by custom has responsibility to do so.
- *Trafficked child*: a child who is a victim, or a potential victim, of trafficking in human beings within the meaning of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Human Trafficking in Human Beings (see paragraphs 17-18 below):
- *Looked after child*: a child who is looked after by a local authority by reason of a care order, or being accommodated under section 20 of the Children Act 1989.
- *Care leaver*: an eligible, relevant or former relevant child as defined by the Children Act 1989.

Local authority responsibilities

8. The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010 set out local authorities' duties with regard to providing for looked after children and care leavers who are eligible children. The Care Leavers (England) Regulations 2010 likewise set out duties regarding care leavers who are relevant or former relevant children. These regulations were amended in 2014 to require that those duties are fulfilled with particular regard to the child's status as unaccompanied or trafficked children. The Children Act 1989 requires that local authorities perform their duties under these regulations for all children, regardless of their immigration status, nationality or documentation.

9. Local authorities should ensure that they have processes in place to monitor their policies and performance relating to unaccompanied and trafficked children. They should ensure that responsible managers look beyond this guidance to understand the risks and issues facing unaccompanied and trafficked children and to review best practice in planning for the care of these children.

10. A close multi-agency approach is essential to protecting trafficked children from further risk from their traffickers. In particular, there should be a clear understanding between the local authority and the police of roles in planning for this protection and responding if a trafficked child goes missing.

11. A number of possible immigration outcomes may be involved in the case of a lone child from overseas depending on the individual case. The importance of planning for different outcomes and what these may be are described at paragraphs 56-64 below.

12. The needs of both unaccompanied and trafficked children can require specialist support. This may be best provided by voluntary organisations, a number of whom are referenced in this guidance.

Training and awareness

13. Everyone involved in the care of unaccompanied and trafficked children should be trained to recognise and understand the particular issues likely to be faced by these children. This includes recognising the indicators of trafficking as a child's previous history or current experience of being trafficked might not be apparent on entering care. Social workers and their managers should understand how the child's experiences and vulnerabilities impact on assessment, care planning and delivery.

14. Social workers should also be aware of the wider child protection system around trafficked children, including how and when to refer a child to the National Referral Mechanism. They should understand how to access any specialist legal or immigration advice and representation the child might require to ensure that their international

protection and human rights issues are fully explored. This is best provided by an immigration solicitor who specialises in working with children (see paragraph 48 below).

15. Independent reviewing officers need to be aware of local authority duties to take regard of the child's status as an unaccompanied or trafficked child when planning and providing for care. They must also have an awareness of the particular needs and issues they may face as a result of this status so that they can provide appropriate challenge at review. Foster or residential care providers need to be aware of best practice in ensuring trafficked children do not return to their traffickers.

16. A number of organisations can provide relevant training, either face-to-face or on-line. Some examples of the training available are included at Annex A.

When is a child a victim of human trafficking?

17. The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Human Trafficking in Human Beings definitions for trafficking are as follows:

- "trafficking in human beings" shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;
- the consent of a victim of "trafficking in human beings" to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used;
- the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered "trafficking in human beings" even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article;
- "child" shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.

18. Many children falling under the definitions above will be trafficked into the UK from overseas. They may be accompanied by an adult or unaccompanied on their arrival into the UK. The definitions also include children trafficked *within* the UK, for example, for the purposes of sexual exploitation. While this group might not face all the difficulties associated with being trafficked from overseas – in relation to culture, language, or immigration status, for example – they do share other needs, particularly with regards to their protection and dealing with the psychological impact of their experiences. This guidance applies equally to children trafficked into the UK from overseas and within the UK.

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19. In accordance with the requirements of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, the UK has a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for identifying and recording victims of trafficking and ensuring that they are provided with appropriate support wherever they are in the UK. In cases where the front line professional suspects that a child may have been trafficked, they should refer the case to a competent authority by sending the child NRM referral form to UKHTC.

20. Assessment of whether a child is being or is at risk of exploitation – whether or not they are deemed to have been trafficked – is a child protection decision. Child protection and care planning should be enacted accordingly.

21. For more information on referring to the NRM, see <http://www.ecpat.org.uk/content/national-referral-mechanism> . Referral forms are available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms> and provide a comprehensive list of indicators of children who may have been trafficked.

Assessment

22. The core assessment, conducted as the first step in the care planning process, must be made with reference to the child's status as an unaccompanied or trafficked child. This means that particular account must be taken through the assessment of any specific needs the child has, for example, because of their experiences in their country of origin (such as experience of conflict), their journey to the UK, abuse at the hands of traffickers or exploitation as a consequence of being trafficked.

23. Where a child has been trafficked, the core assessment should be carried out immediately as the window for intervention is very narrow. Many trafficked children go missing from care, often within the first 48 hours. Provision may need to be made for the child to be in a safe place before any assessment takes place and for the possibility that they may not be able to disclose full information about their circumstances immediately. The location of the child should not be divulged to any enquirers until their identity and relationship with the child has been established, if necessary with the help of police and immigration services.

24. Trafficked children might not initially recognise that they are victims of a crime. They may have been told that the authorities will try to put them in prison, or have been passed from one unknown adult to another. They need to know they can trust their social worker, and others involved in their care, and that they will be able to rely on their support over time. Local authorities should prioritise trafficked children to provide the best likelihood that they will receive continuity of care and be able to build a sustained relationship with their social worker. This continuity should begin, where possible, from the core assessment and be promoted throughout their time in care.

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25. The core assessment should ascertain any particular psychological or emotional impact of experiences as an unaccompanied or trafficked child. These experiences can be severe and traumatic. They should be noted, along with any consequent need for psychological or mental health support to help the child deal with them. As for any child, the assessment should also cover the child's needs in relation to their health, disability, education, religious persuasion, racial origin, cultural and linguistic background.
26. No assumptions should be made about the child's language skills. Where interpreters are required, they should be appropriately trained to understand the particular issues the child may face. In particular, "trafficking" as a concept may not translate literally or easily, and may need to be expressed in a different way to ensure the child fully comprehends their situation. Care should be taken to ensure that the interpreter is not linked in anyway with those who may have been involved in their trafficking or exploitation.
27. The core assessment should establish that the child fully understands their situation and how they will be supported. This includes ensuring they understand the risks they may face, particularly from traffickers. An assessment of their continued vulnerability to the influence or control of their traffickers and the risks of them going missing from care should be recorded.
28. The core assessment should also establish whether the child knows where they are (for example, they may have been told by their traffickers that they are in a country other than the UK) and understand the child's reasons for coming to the UK. The roles of those involved in their care should be explained. In particular, it should be made clear that border and immigration officials involved in their asylum case have a separate role from those who provide will provide for their care.
29. The local authority's duties to looked after children under the Children Act 1989 apply equally to unaccompanied or trafficked children who are looked after. This includes the duties to return a looked after child to their family, and to promote contact between the child and their parents. Planning for permanence should therefore include consideration of re-unification with the child's birth family.
30. Establishing whether it is appropriate to initiate contact with an unaccompanied child's family is a responsibility of the Home Office. The local authority will need to liaise with the Home Office case worker for the child. Child protection considerations will be paramount, and family involvement in trafficking or exploiting the child will be a major factor in any decision. Having assessed these factors, attempts should be made to contact the child's parents to seek their views. Support may be provided for this from Home Office or independent family tracing services could be commissioned.
31. Unaccompanied and trafficked children may have experienced or witnessed extreme trauma which is difficult for them to recount. Throughout the core assessment,

steps should be taken to minimise distress caused by asking children to repeat information they may already have provided, for example, to border officials, police or social care staff assessing their child safeguarding needs. Care must be taken to ensure that the child does not become lost between the agencies involved and their different systems and procedures. This can be achieved through establishing clear processes for multi-agency working and transfer of all relevant information.

Planning, protection and placement

Care planning

32. The care plan that results from the core assessment must contain a note of the child's status as an unaccompanied or trafficked child. The plan should include a description of how the child's needs in relation to their status will be met. This is to ensure that everyone involved in providing the child's care is aware of their status and enable them to provide for any needs resulting from it.

33. Unaccompanied and trafficked children may have need for access to specialised legal advice and support. This could be in relation to immigration and asylum proceedings. If they have been trafficked, it may also be in relation to criminal or compensation proceedings. The plan should note where legal support is required and how it will be provided. The child's social worker or carer should accompany them in all meetings with legal professionals.

34. As for any looked after child, a health plan and a personal education plan should be produced as part of the overall care plan. The health plan should cover the children's state of health including physical, emotional and mental health. This should include detail of how any psychological issues resulting from their experiences in their country of origin, on their journey to the UK or at the hands of traffickers will be addressed.

35. Traffickers may have sought to control the child by telling them that their family will come to harm if they do not co-operate. Trafficked children should be provided with on-going support to help them cope with the emotional impact of this kind of coercion. This may require referral to specialist mental health assessment and treatment. The health plan should set out the objectives, actions, timescales and responsibilities, arising from the health assessment.

36. The education plan should include a clear education pathway for securing high quality education provision in school or other education setting and details of particular support the child may need, for example, to learn English or where the child has a special educational need.

37. Looked after children must be given priority in school admissions, as set out in the School Admissions Code. Social workers and carers should understand local

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arrangements for priority admissions and ensure the child gains a place at the most appropriate school for them.

38. The local authority should also take steps to ensure robust procedures are in place to monitor education progress and a culture of proactive commitment to secure the highest educational outcomes for unaccompanied or trafficked children. This should be monitored by a senior manager, such as the virtual school head.

Protection and placement planning

39. A child protection plan may be required to protect the trafficked children from further harm. There is a high likelihood that they will go missing from care and return to their traffickers. In these cases, the plan should include what steps will be taken by carers, the local authority and police to recover the child if they do go missing, in accordance with local Runaway and Missing from Home and Care protocols. A photograph of the child should be kept on file for use if the child does go missing. More detail on dealing with a trafficked child who has gone missing is contained in [statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care](#).

40. Steps to build, quickly, a stable and trusting relationship with the child are important to planning for their protection. As part of planning for their protection, the child should be asked about what would help them to feel safe. For trafficked children, involving the child in this way can help them regain a sense of control over their lives. It can also help to build the relationships that can form a protective factor, reducing the risk of the child going missing.

41. Taking steps that may be perceived by the child as punitive could put them at more risk of going missing. Efforts to protect the child should not replicate those that may have been used by traffickers to control the child. Involving the child in the development of their protection plan can help reduce this risk.

42. Placement decisions should take particular account of protecting the child from any continued risk from traffickers, and from a heightened risk of going missing. An out of area placement might be appropriate to put distance between the child and where the traffickers expect them to be. Specialist accommodation could be considered, for example, in settings which specialise in dealing with victims of trafficking.

43. Older children in particular may appear independent but can still lack the skills to keep themselves safe from their traffickers. Steps to keep trafficked children safe in their care setting could include, amongst others:

- employing previously trafficked children to talk to trafficked children newly taken into care about the risks they face;

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- temporarily removing mobile phones to prevent traffickers making contact with children and putting in place other methods for the child to stay in touch with friends or family if required;
- encouraging children to memorise a phone number so that, if they do go missing from care but then find they are at risk, they can contact the local authority;
- allowing access to the internet only in group settings;
- providing 24 hour supervision whenever a child leaves their care setting for the first 8 - 12 weeks in care;
- ensuring the child's room does not allow for easy exit, for example, is on an upper floor.

44. All residential home staff or foster carers caring for unaccompanied or trafficked children must be aware of any particular risks of them going missing, or of any continued risk to the child from their traffickers. They must also be fully aware of the child's past experiences and any psychological issues they face. This may include the potential negative impact of protection measures which replicate methods previously used by their traffickers to control the child.

45. It is important that suitable emergency accommodation can be accessed directly at any time of the day or night. Bed and breakfast (B&B) accommodation is not considered suitable for any child under the age of 18 even on an emergency accommodation basis. Such accommodation could leave children particularly vulnerable to further risk from traffickers.

Review, advocacy and wider support

46. Case reviews chaired by the child's independent reviewing officer must include whether the needs related to their status as an unaccompanied or trafficked child are being met. A child's needs, including their protection needs, will change over time and should be kept under regular review.

47. All looked after children must be made aware of their entitlement to independent advocacy support. The local authority should facilitate this access where required. This entitlement is not just for when the child has a complaint, but includes where children need to make representations about their care and support. For unaccompanied and trafficked children, support from an independent specialist advocate could help overcome cultural or language barriers so that they can express their wishes and feelings.

48. Unaccompanied and trafficked children may require support in dealing with immigration questions or proceedings. Specialist knowledge is required to provide advice and support on these issues. Where immigration advice is required, the person providing that advice (whether an independent advocate or another person) must be a regulated

solicitor or registered with the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC)¹ to provide immigration advice to the relevant level. For example, to advise on issues such as asylum applications, out-of-time applications for leave to remain or applications for citizenship, the advisor would need to be competent to provide advice to OISC level 2.

49. Unaccompanied and trafficked children are likely to be a long way from home and family and isolated from their peers. An independent visitor could help bridge this gap and provide informal support. The child should be offered an independent visitor, ensuring that they understand the role the independent visitor could play in providing support. If they decline this offer, their reasons for doing so should be recorded.

50. In addition, unaccompanied children should be informed of the availability of the Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) scheme run by Refugee Action: Choices on behalf of the Home Office. Most unaccompanied asylum seeking children will be eligible to apply for the Assisted Voluntary Returns Families and Children (AVRFC) programme. Further information on all the schemes is available on the Choices website: <http://www.choices-avr.org.uk/choices> or via their free phone number: 0808 800 0007.

Planning transition to adulthood

51. A child's immigration status has no bearing on a local authority's duties to provide care leaving support. Unaccompanied children must be provided with the same support as for any care leaver, as set out in The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations volume 3: Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers.

52. A child's status as an unaccompanied or trafficked child must be considered in the assessment of needs undertaken as part of the pathway planning process, and by the independent reviewing officer in any review of the pathway plan.

53. Transition planning will need to consider the challenges and issues facing any care leaver, such as education or preparing for independent living. Planning for a care leaver that has recently entered the UK from overseas may need to cover additional support in understanding the institutions and systems that they will need to deal with in the UK.

54. Unaccompanied children can be at particular risk of becoming isolated on leaving care. When planning for transition, the local authority must ensure that language or cultural factors are taken into account to reduce this risk. A trafficked child may still be at risk of exploitation from their traffickers on leaving care. This risk should be considered, particularly with regard to arranging accommodation.

¹ <http://oisc.homeoffice.gov.uk>

Immigration status and transition planning

55. Planning transition to adulthood for unaccompanied children is a particularly complex process that needs to address their care needs in the context of wider asylum and immigration legislation and how these needs change over time. Pathway planning to support an unaccompanied child's transition to adulthood should cover all areas that would be addressed within all care leaver's plans as well as any additional needs arising from their specific immigration issues.

56. Planning may have to be based around short-term achievable goals whilst entitlement to remain in the UK is being determined. For the majority of unaccompanied children who do not have permanent immigration status, transition planning should initially take a dual or triple planning perspective, which, over time should be refined as the young person's immigration status is resolved. Planning cannot pre-empt the outcome of any immigration decision and may be based on:

- a transitional plan during the period of uncertainty when the care leaver is in the United Kingdom without permanent immigration status;
- a longer-term perspective plan should the care leaver be granted long-term permission to stay in the UK (for example through the grant of Refugee Status); or
- a return to their country of origin at any appropriate point or at the end of the immigration consideration process, should that be necessary because the care leaver decides to leave the UK or is required to do so.

57. Claiming asylum can be a complex process. Social workers and personal advisors should work with the care leaver's legal representative and the dedicated decision-maker at the Home Office at to ensure that the young person understands the process of claiming asylum and the possible outcomes, and to provide them with necessary support.

58. There are four principle possible outcomes of the asylum claim, outlined below.

1. Granted Refugee Status (i.e., granted asylum). Leave to remain for five years.
2. Refused asylum but granted Humanitarian Protection. Leave to remain for five years. This is most commonly granted when the person is at some risk of 'ill-treatment' in the particular country they left but does not meet the criteria of the Refugee Convention. This is a rare category for unaccompanied children.
3. Refused asylum but granted Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) Leave. This is normally for 30 months or until the age of 17½, whichever is the shorter period. Once the child reaches 17½ years of age their case will be reviewed. UASC Leave is granted if at the time of the decision adequate care and reception arrangements are not in place in the country of origin (i.e., a return cannot be effected safely).

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4. Refused asylum with no grant of leave. In this case the unaccompanied child must return to their country of origin.

59. Those found to require Refugee Status or, more rarely, Humanitarian Protection, are usually granted leave to remain for five years. Although it is not guaranteed that further leave to remain will be granted at the end of the five year period, it is certainly a strong likelihood and care and pathway planning should primarily focus on longer term residence in the UK, in the same way as for any other care leaver.

60. Planning for a return home may be difficult, but care and pathway plans should include contingencies for durable and best interest plans for unaccompanied children who are likely to have to return to their country of origin. Pathway plans should always consider the implications for the care leaver if: their application for asylum is refused without a grant of leave; or their application to extend their leave to remain, or their appeal against refusal of that application, is dismissed. In such circumstances, the person will become unlawfully present in the United Kingdom and be expected to make plans for return to the country of origin.

61. Assistance with plans for voluntary return can be sought from Choices. Where needed, Choices will help an applicant: obtain travel documentation; arrange and pay for return flights; arrange transport to the UK departure airport; give assistance at the departure airport; and arrange onward transport when back in the country of origin or the third country to which a person is permanently admissible (country of return).

62. Those who return under AVRFC are eligible for up to £2,000 worth of reintegration assistance for each person, including a £500 relocation grant in cash on departure for immediate resettlement needs. Once home, a range of reintegration assistance options are available, tailored to the returnee's individual needs. This assistance is to help returnees make an income and become financially independent. To take up this part of the reintegration assistance, returnees must contact Choices within one month of their return. All reintegration assistance is supplied within the first year of return. Reintegration assistance can be used for business set-up, education, vocational training, job placement, housing (temporary accommodation or for repair work), childcare fees, or medical and psychosocial support.

63. The Home Office is under a statutory duty to have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and relevant personal data may be shared with the Home Office in order to help it discharge its duty. The management of return arrangements will require a collaborative approach with the Home Office in order to ensure they take place as sensitively and humanely as possible.

Access to public funds, welfare benefits and other public funds

64. Financial support for looked after unaccompanied children should reflect their needs as eligible care leavers and their immigration needs. Financial policies should highlight

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their entitlements and how their immigration status may impact on current and future entitlements. Pathway plans should address funding arrangements for education and training and how a young person's immigration status may limit education, training and employment opportunities.

65. Pathway plans should always consider the implications for the care leaver if their application to extend their leave to remain is refused, or their appeal against refusal of that application is dismissed. In such circumstances the person may become ineligible for further support and assistance because of the effect of Schedule 3 of the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002.

Advice and support

66. As for any relevant child, once an unaccompanied or trafficked child leaves care or reaches the age of 18, a personal advisor must be appointed to support them. The personal advisor should have an understanding of the issues that may be facing a young migrant settling into a new country, as well as any continued risk the child may face from traffickers.

67. If support with immigration or asylum processes is required, the person providing this advice should be a registered solicitor or registered with the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) as set out in paragraph 48 above.

Annex A

Associated resources

General guidance

- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013) clarifies the core legal requirements on individuals and organisations to keep children safe, including the legal requirements that health services, social workers, police, schools and other organisations who work with children must follow.
<https://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-safeguard-children>
- The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations volume 2: Care Planning, Placement and Case Review <http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00224478/stat-guid-care-plan>
- The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations volume 3: Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers <http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00224479/transition-to-adulthood-for-care-leavers>
- Joint statutory guidance, DCLG and DfE 'Provision of Accommodation for 16 and 17 year old young people who may be homeless and/or require accommodation' (April 2010) <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/homelessseventeen>

Child trafficking

- Safeguarding Children Who May Have Been Trafficked Guidance (2011) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-who-may-have-been-trafficked-practice-guidance>
- NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice Centre (providing specialist advice and information to professionals who have concerns that a child may have been trafficked): phone 0808 800 5000 Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm; email help@nspcc.org.uk ; or web http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/research/ctail/ctail_wda84866.html
- London Borough of Hillingdon resources for trafficked children at <http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/16450/Child-trafficking-sub-group>

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- On the Safe Side: Principle of Safe Accommodation of Child Victims of Trafficking (ECPAT UK, 2011) link available here: http://www.ecpat.org.uk/sites/default/files/on_the_safe_side.pdf
- London Safeguarding Children Board toolkit and resources on tracking <http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/trafficking/>

Online training resources

- ECPAT UK have produced a free-learning package around child trafficking that can be used individually, in small groups, or during training sessions. <http://course.ecpat.org.uk/index.php>
- Children Families Across Border (CFAB), in conjunction with INEQE and the Counter Human Trafficking Bureau, have produced online training course which is free and intended for all staff who may come across trafficked children. It is designed for Social Workers, Police Officers, Teachers, School Support Staff, Housing Officers, Health Staff, Early Years Workers and NGO Staff. <http://www.ecomsoftware.com/ineqechildtraffickingbasics/index.html>

Missing children guidance, strategy and police resources

- Statutory guidance on children missing from home or care [link to be included once published]
- Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) guidance on the Management, Recording and Investigation of Missing Persons <http://www.acpo.police.uk/documents/crime/2011/201103CRIIMP02.pdf>
- Missing Children and Adults strategy (2011) <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/missing-persons-strategy>
- Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) website <http://www.ceop.police.uk/>

Child sexual exploitation

- Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation (2009) <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/safeguardingchildren/a0072233/safeguarding-children-from-sexual-exploitation>
- Tackling child sexual exploitation action plan (2011) <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/safeguarding/safeguardingchildren/a00200288/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-action-plan>
- What to do if you suspect a child is being sexually exploited. A step-by-step guide for frontline practitioners (June 2012) <http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/s/step%20by%20step%20guide.pdf>

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- National Working Group website, a UK network of over 1000 practitioners working on the issue of child sexual exploitation (CSE) and trafficking within the UK. includes relevant resources for practitioners
www.nationalworkinggroup.org
- Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation (PACE)
<http://www.paceuk.info/>



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