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## Further Support

### Resources for young people, parents, carers and guardians:

NSPCC [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

Children Society

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/advice-hub>

CEOP (Child Exploitation & Online Protection Centre) [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

Net Aware [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk)

PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation) [www.paceuk.info](http://www.paceuk.info)

UK Safer Internet

Centre [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

Parent Zone [www.parentzone.org.uk](http://www.parentzone.org.uk)

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## Child Protection at The Rowans - Important contacts

### Designated Safeguarding Leads

Miss Johnson: Executive Head Teacher

[Caron.johnson@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:Caron.johnson@therowansap.co.uk)

Mrs May: Head Teacher

[fiona.may@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:fiona.may@therowansap.co.uk)

Miss Webb: SENCO

[gwen.webb@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:gwen.webb@therowansap.co.uk)

### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Miss Jones: Welfare and Attendance Lead

[rebecca.jones@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:rebecca.jones@therowansap.co.uk)

Jo Skinner: Inclusions, Interventions & Mental Health Lead

[joanne.skinner@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:joanne.skinner@therowansap.co.uk)

Mrs Bowley: Lead Teacher Primary SEN

[Tracey.bowley@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:Tracey.bowley@therowansap.co.uk)

Mr May: 2<sup>nd</sup> In Charge Primary SEN

[lan.may@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:lan.may@therowansap.co.uk)

### Trustee for Safeguarding

Karen Price

[Karen.price@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:Karen.price@therowansap.co.uk)

The school's safeguarding and child protection policy is available on our website:

<https://www.therowans.org/policies and info/policies>

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# The Rowans AP Academy

## Understanding Child Exploitation




**Please take a leaflet and seek support from us**

Silverbank, Churchill Avenue  
Chatham, Kent ME5 0LB  
01634 33 8803

Email – [office@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:office@therowansap.co.uk)

[www.therowans.org](http://www.therowans.org)

 @TherowansAP

 The Rowans AP Academy

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## What is Child Exploitation?

Child exploitation is **when an abuser takes advantage of a young person for their own personal gain**. This can take many forms, including sexual exploitation or forcing the child to commit crime. The most common form of criminal exploitation is when a child is forced to sell drugs for an older person.

## Some facts about Child Sexual Exploitation

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator.

## Signs of Child Sexual Exploitation

- Unhealthy or inappropriate sexual behaviour.
- Being frightened of some people, places or situations.
- Bring secretive.
- Sharp changes in mood or character.
- Having money or things they can't or won't explain.
- Physical signs of abuse, like bruises or bleeding in their genital or anal area.

## Some facts about Child Criminal Exploitation

The Home Office defines **child criminal exploitation** as:

Child Criminal Exploitation occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a **child** or young person under the age of 18. The victim may have been criminally **exploited** even if the activity appears consensual.

## Signs of Child Criminal Exploitation

- Frequently absent from and doing badly in school.
- Going missing from home, staying out late and travelling for unexplained reasons.
- In a relationship or hanging out with someone older than them.
- Being angry, aggressive or violent.
- Being isolated or withdrawn.

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**Parents are often the first to notice something is wrong. Trust your instincts and talk to your child if you're worried.**

- Have they a boyfriend, girlfriend or friends including adults who you don't know?
- Have you noticed them getting presents, money, a mobile phone or jewellery?
- Have they been missing from home, staying out overnight or missing school?
- Do they get picked up or dropped off by unknown people?
- Are they secretive about where they go and who they see?
- Do they chat to people online who they've never met?
- Do you know what they're accessing online?
- Are they drinking or taking drugs regularly?

## You Are Not Alone....

All staff at The Rowans receive regular training in safeguarding and child protection and all have a duty of care towards the pupils.

Miss Rebecca Jones (Welfare and Attendance Lead) is a trained Medway Child Exploitation Champion. She can offer help and advice and can signpost to relevant specialist support services.

## How we can help

If you believe your child is at risk of exploitation or being exploited, we can help. We will:

- Listen to you in a non-judgmental way, prioritising your safety and the safety of your children.
- Give you practical advice to help increase your safety and that of your children.
- Offer a referral to a specialist support agency in Medway, including CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection), the NSPCC or Medway Social Services.
- Offer continuous support.

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## PACE – Parents against Child Exploitation

Pace offers parents compassionate support and advice informed by over 20 years of experience working in partnership with parents to tackle child exploitation.

### Pace seeks to:

Enable parents and carers to safeguard and stop their children being exploited.

Provide evidence and specialist advice in order to demonstrate to partners that parents and carers have an essential safeguarding role.

Work with parents and partners to disrupt and bring perpetrators to justice.

Influence national and local policy and practice to reflect the active safeguarding role of parents and the impact on families of child exploitation.

Sustain long term change by training partners in the active role of parents and carers safeguarding their children

### Do you know or suspect that your child is being sexually exploited by someone outside the family?

Pace takes referrals directly from parents. If you are worried about child sexual exploitation happening to your son or daughter, please go to [www.paceuk.info/contact-us/](http://www.paceuk.info/contact-us/). Someone from their parent support team will be in touch to discuss the help and information Pace could offer.