



Suggested alternatives for describing behaviour around CSE concerns

Inappropriate terms	Suggested alternatives
Putting themselves at risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child may have been groomed. • The child is at an increased vulnerability to being abused/exploited. • A Perpetrator may exploit the child's increased Vulnerability. • Situation could reduce the child's safety. • Location/situation could increase a perpetrators opportunity to abuse them. • Child in not in a protective environment. • The location is dangerous to children. • Not clear if the child is under duress to go missing. • Concerns are that the child may be being sexually abused. • It is unclear why the child is getting in to cars. • Concern that there is a power imbalance forcing the child to act in this way. • Concerns regarding others Influences on the child.
Sexual activity with...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have been sexually abused. • They have been raped. • Allegation of sexual abuse. • Child has described sexual activity; however, concerns exist that they child may have been groomed/coerced.
Sexually active since (age under 13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raped. • Concerns exist that child may have been coerced, exploited or sexually abused. • Child may have been sexually abused.

<p>Have been contacting adult Males/females via phone or internet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult males/females have been contacting the child. • Child may have been groomed. • Concerns that the adult is facilitating communication with a child. • Child is vulnerable to online perpetrators. • Concerns that others may be using online technology to access or abuse the child. • Adults appear to be using a range of methods to communicate with the child.
<p>Offering her drugs seemingly in return for sex'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child is being sexually exploited. • Concerns that the child has been raped. • Perpetrators are sexually abusing the child. • The child is being sexually abused. • The child's vulnerability regarding drug use is being used by others to abuse them. • The perpetrators have a hold over the child by the fact that they have a drug dependency.
<p>Involved in CSE</p>	<p>This implies there is a level of choice regarding the child being abused a better term would be the child is vulnerable to being sexually exploited or they are being sexually exploited. A 5 year old would never be referred to as being involved in sexual abuse for the same reasons.</p>
<p>Promiscuous</p>	<p>This puts the blame on the child and implies they know what may be happening and therefore is not seen by practitioners as exploitative or abusive.</p> <p>Often used to describe females' behaviour.</p>
<p>Prostituting themselves</p>	<p>This completely misses that the child is being controlled/manipulated. Changes in legislation have meant that child prostitution is no longer an acceptable term and should never be used.</p>
<p>Boyfriend/girlfriend</p>	<p>Children have been challenged in court with practitioner's recordings where their practitioner has referred to the perpetrator as the child's boyfriend or girlfriend.</p>