# Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Support and guidance for professionals, parents and carers

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility



# **Levels of behaviour**

## **Healthy behaviour**

Healthy behaviour displayed between children or young people of a similar age or developmental ability. Reflecting natural curiosity or experimentation.

## **Inappropriate behaviour**

Some worrying behaviours that may have the potential to be outside of safe and healthy behavior given the age, maturity or ability of the child or young person. There is no secrecy or force but the child/young people involved seem uncomfortable.

#### **Problematic behaviour**

Of particular concern due to age, developmental differences and activity, frequency, duration or the context in which the activities occur.

#### Harmful behaviour

Behaviors could be excessive, secretive, compulsive, coercive, degrading or threatening. Could include significant age differences, developmental or power differentials.

## **Actions to take**

1 Assess behaviour using the HSB Toolkit:

Visit: www.calderdale-safeguarding.co.uk and search in the Resources and Guidance A-Z section for:

- Sexually Harmful Behaviour Tool
- Calderdale HSB Pathway Flowchart.
- 2 If inappropriate or problematic, select the Report Concerns button on the Safeguarding webpage and complete the **Statutory Referral Form.**
- If Harmful behavior identified:
  Notify Police and MAST if any harm to a child or young person identified.

## **Outcomes**

- Assessment undertaken
- 2 Guidance provided; or
- Intervention offered tailored to the needs, risks and wellbeing of the child/young person.

The intervention will be delivered by trained member of staff employed by Children's Social Care.

# **Aims of the HSB Panel**

- 1 To ensure that children and young people with HSB are assessed and interventions are well managed, timely, co-ordinated, effective and evaluated.
- 2 To ensure HSB victims are assessed and appropriate support and intervention is offered.
- To prevent further victims of HSB.
- 4 To support parents/carers to manage and respond appropriately to their child/teenager.

The HSB Panel meets fortnightly and consists of representatives from:

- Children's Social Care
- Youth Justice Service
- Children and Young People's Service
- Health
- Open Minds Partnership
- Education

Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership

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