

Physical abuse and extra-familial harm

**Practice Week
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Introductions

- Who am I?



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Contextual Safeguarding Hub Enfield

- My team and I work to ensure that Enfield's approach is the best that it can be. We provide advice and training to multi-agency partners. We can provide case consultations with social workers and partner agencies.
- Developing a multi-faceted improvement plan focusing on practice improvement and intelligence mapping.
- We have built a series of specific contextual safeguarding resources to use with young people, families and carers.

Extra-familial harm and adolescence

- Predominantly dealing with teenagers although extra-familial harm can happen at any age.
- Main areas that Enfield deals with are Child Criminal Exploitation and Child Sexual Exploitation.
- Teenage brain development means that teenagers are more likely to take risks and not be able to think about the consequences of their actions. We can sometimes expect teenagers to behave like mini-adults.
- British Culture – Teenagers tend to move away from their parents sphere of influence and care more about what their peer group thinks. This is different to other parts of the world where parents hold a much stronger influence over their children during their teenage years.

Contextual Safeguarding or Extra Familial Harm

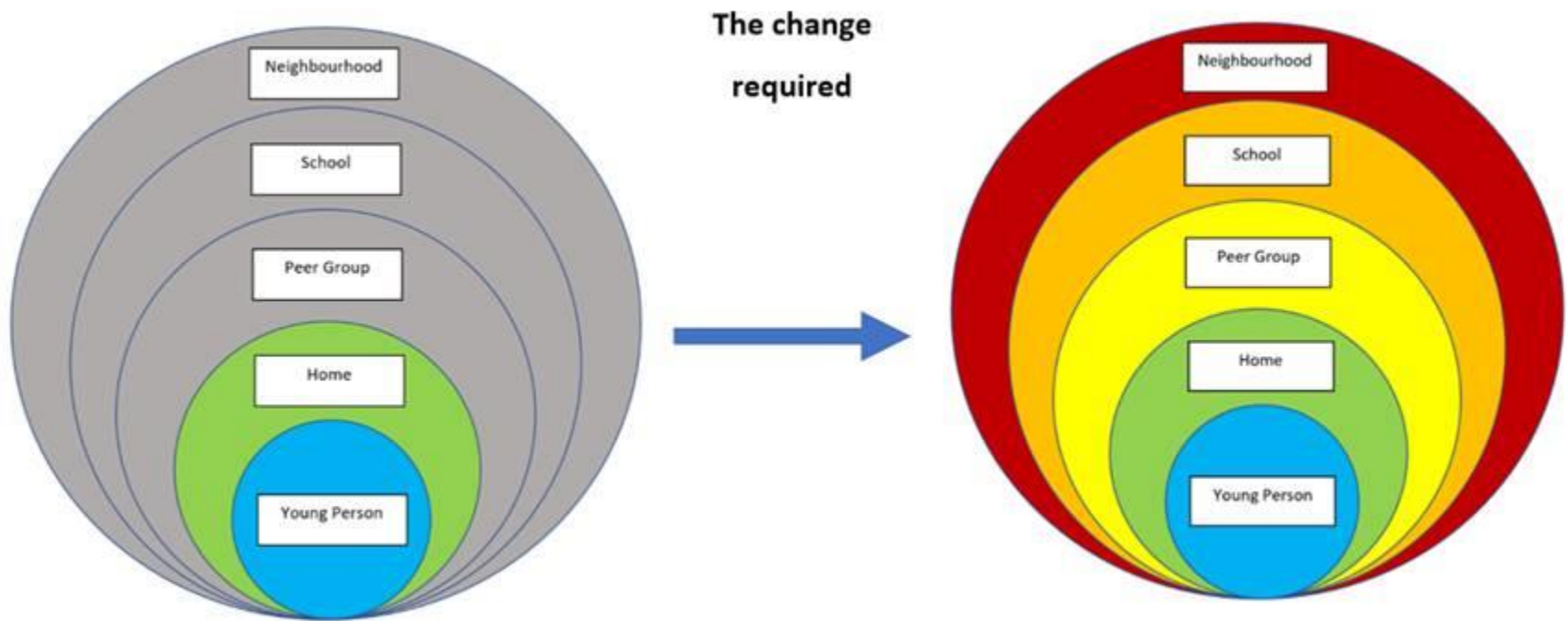


Fig1 - The spheres above represent individual social fields impacting on the young person

Contextual Safeguarding vs Extra-Familial Harm

- Extra-familial harm is defined as risks to the welfare of children that arise within the community or peer group, including sexual and criminal exploitation.
- “Contextual Safeguarding” is an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people’s experiences of significant harm beyond their families. It recognises that the different relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online can feature violence and abuse. Parents and carers have little influence over peer groups, schools and neighbourhoods and therefore its vital that we target the right interventions; at the right contexts

What role does physical violence play?

- Physical abuse and threats of physical abuse go hand in hand with extra-familial harm and its present in nearly all forms of CSE and CCE.
- In order for exploitation to take place you need 3 things...



- Violence creates vulnerabilities
- Perpetrators use violence to abuse

Physical violence and its relationship to vulnerability

What do you think the impact of physical abuse on children is?

- Physical pain (bruises, broken bones, broken teeth)
- Low self-esteem
- Feels unloved
- Feels rejected
- Desensitisation to further abuse
- Low confidence
- Turn down learning opportunities
- Teaches violence is an acceptable stress response

- Exploiters spot vulnerable young people and groom them accordingly:
- They elevate self-esteem, make them feel accepted, make them feel valued, loved, powerful

Physical violence and its relationship with perpetrators

Can you think of some of the contexts in which violence occurs:

- Robbery/Armed robbery
- Petty squabbles and dented pride
- Fights/disagreements
- Online 'call outs'
- Intimidation – make an example
- Drill videos
- Gang initiations
- Punishment for losing money/drugs
- Revenge attacks
- Relationships/honey traps
- Exploiters use violence to intimidate and control children

Enfield's statistics

- April 2020 – March 2021: 181 individual young people at risk of CSE/CCE
- April 2021 – March 2022: 248 individual young people at risk of CSE/CCE. This was an increase of 37%
- April 2022 – March 2023: 239 individual young people at risk of CSE/CCE. This is a decrease of 4%

CAPVA and APVA worker

- Enfield Council have been successful in securing funding for 2 years from MOPAC (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) for the role. The CAPVA and APVA Champion will play a crucial role in ensuring that parents who suffer abuse from their children are supported effectively.
- This role involves raising awareness of the underreported issue alongside championing and disseminating best practice across our service. The successful candidate will establish Council wide data capture on the issues and ensure that referrals are made in a comprehensive and timely manner to our partner RISE mutual. The successful candidate will work collaboratively with various departments to promote a culture of safeguarding for families where CAPVA and APVA are present as well as implementing effective strategies to prevent harm.