

## peer on peer abuse: it could happen here

Think about our setting and answer the questions on peer-on-peer abuse below.

### What is peer on peer abuse?

Children can abuse other children. This is generally referred to as peer on peer/child on child abuse and can take many forms. It can happen both inside and outside of school/college and online. It is most likely to include, but may not be limited to: bullying (including cyberbullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying); abuse in intimate personal relationships between peers; physical abuse; sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault; sexual harassment; non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi nudes images and/or videos; causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent; upskirting; and initiation/hazing type violence and rituals.

### List four types of abuse which could be described as peer on peer abuse

- Harmful sexual behaviour
- Physical abuse
- Child sexual exploitation
- Domestic abuse / teenage relationship abuse
- Gang activities
- County lines and criminal exploitation
- Serious Youth Violence
- Bullying

### List four groups who can be considered to be more vulnerable to peer on peer abuse

- 10 years and older
- Girls and young women
- Black and minority ethnic children
- Children with abuse in their history
- Children who have suffered bereavement
- Children who have abused others
- Looked after children / children with SEND

### List four signs or symptoms of peer on peer abuse.

- Absence from school or disengagement from school activities;
- Physical injuries;
- Mental or emotional health issues;
- Lack of sleep;
- Becoming withdrawn – lack of self esteem;
- Alcohol or substance misuse;
- Changes in behaviour;
- Inappropriate behaviour for age;
- Abuse towards others.