

Cumbria Disruption Strategies Interventions Options Tool

This tool identifies which disruption tactics may be used for the individual child / young person to support the development of an effective intervention plan.

Aim	Intervention Options
Disrupt the young person's relationship with other young people suspected of introducing them to adults involved in violence, gang activity and sexual exploitation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify whom the young person is spending time with and recognise negative relationships. • Prevent visits to the home by other young people who may either deliberately or unwittingly be recruiting the young person. • Screen telephone calls to the home. • Complete information report forms on CSE RAT forms on known associates and any risk they pose. • Consideration for Child Sexual Offences Disclosure scheme if appropriate.
Disrupt the young person's contact with adults or young people suspected of being involved in violence, drugs and sexual exploitation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the Abduction Warnings and Orders strategy. • Discuss, recognise and acknowledge abusive relationships. • Deny individuals suspected of abusing, grooming, or recruiting the young person access to the child's home. • Secure mobile phones and SIM cards, particularly if supplied by abusers and pass to the Police. • Consider removing mobile phones at night for the purpose of charging the batteries and monitor internet, call and text use. • Ensure the child has a contract phone with the itemised billing being available to the parent/guardian.
Gather information to assist prosecution and disruption of adults suspected of being involved in violence, gang activity, drugs, sexual exploitation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain as much information as possible to identify associates and those who pose a risk to children and young people. Good information includes full names, nick names, telephone numbers, addresses and car registrations etc. • Keep accurate records and retain the information on children's personal files; it is important to date and time the information and note who is involved in incidents and any interventions. • Note down any licensed body or property and send information to the local authority enforcement officer and lead officer.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all multi agency group members supporting a child are updated at review meetings and as and when information is accessed. • Be aware of specific agency responsibility and interventions i.e. Abduction Orders, licensing remedies, checks on persons.
Promote positive relationships with family, friends and carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carers/parents should be actively engaged in searching for the young person to show that they care and are informed • Promote the need for carers / parents to show attention. • Encourage honesty; reinforce the nature of the crime. • Involve parents/young person in tackling the problem and in team around the child and CSE Review Meetings. • Identify suitable long-term key workers who can “befriend” the young person.
Physically protect the young person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is permissible in some circumstances to physically intervene to prevent a young person running from care as an emergency intervention. This should be clearly stated in individual plans. • However, physical intervention does not offer a long-term risk management strategy and if the only way to prevent the young person repeatedly running away is by physically restraining the young person on a regular basis, an alternative placement should be considered. • Consider removing and preserving clothing and passing it to the Police if it will aid the Police in an investigation • Police and Social Care Protection Powers to be used as appropriate.
Maintain contact whilst absent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Cumbria Runaway and Missing from Home or Care (RMFHC) Protocol. • Ring the young person’s mobile phone. • There must be 24/7 contact available so that the young person does not feel isolated during evenings or at weekends. • Ensure the number of the Missing People Helpline and Childline is in the young person’s mobile phone address book or text the numbers to them. • Make use of “Textsafe” to facilitate contact with missing young person. • Consider informing appropriate outreach workers, Safer Neighbourhood Team Bulletins, border alerts (UKBA/UKHTC/UKBF) and agencies in other cities such as Social Care, Police and specialist services.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If whereabouts are unknown consider publicity and posters; their design should be young person centred. • If still missing after 3 days or earlier if deemed appropriate, a missing strategy meeting should be held.
<p>Enhance the return procedure to ensure it is a positive experience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Cumbria RMFHC Protocol. • Identify an individual that the young person respects and wants to talk to. This person should conduct the return interview within 72 hours of the young person's return on every occasion wherever possible and be alert of CSE indicators. This will support consistency and facilitate a positive relationship between the young person and the interviewer. • Safe and well checks or interviews by Police Officers that are no more than an admonishment of the young person should be avoided, as these may exacerbate the situation. Threats to prosecute for wasting Police time or threats to take out an ASBO are rarely effective at engaging young people who regularly go missing, and are unlikely to positively change their behaviour. • Independent interviews should be arranged and would preferably be conducted by Staff who have received specialist training and have a good relationship with the young person. • Return interviews should be followed up by active support of the young person to ensure the return interview is seen as a positive experience. • Where child or young person is involved in petty offending consider Restorative Justice Solutions as the offending could be symptomatic of abuse; particularly recognised in young males. • Young people who are persistently missing should have a missing behaviour strategy or multi-agency plan to address future missing reoccurrence and to reduce the risks to that the young person should they go missing again.
<p>Set clear boundaries to acceptable behaviour and motivate positive behaviour.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult the young person and agree rewards and penalties. • Consider reward schemes i.e. monetary/ vouchers. • Be flexible.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a behaviour management strategy. • Give the young person more independence in response to responsible behaviour.
Empower the parent/ carer/ foster carer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the awareness of parent, carers and foster carers of relevant policies, procedures, their responsibilities, duties, legal powers, their options and restrictions upon them. • Consider family support services. • Maintain active support of parents, carers and foster carers. • Raise the awareness of parents and carers to help them to identify the signs of child sexual exploitation and encourage use of the information report forms. • Consider parenting programmes, contract or where appropriate Parenting Orders. • Provide training in self-protection. • Offer families information about PACE Services and Support www.paceuk.info • Provide Parents with NSPCC Helpline number free confidential, 24/7 support 0808 800 5000 or www.nspcc.org.uk/Helpline • Provide carers and Young people with the Say Something number and text service, free and confidential service for reporting CSE concerns, call or text 116000.
Build the young person's self- esteem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and encourage positive activities that the young person may engage in and encourage the young person to make positive contributions at home, school, leisure or work; positive activities should build self-esteem, not just entertain. • Assist the young person to look at the consequences of their behaviour. • Take time to explain the issues and keep the young person informed. • Involve the young person in looking at alternatives and decision making. • Provide the young person with Child Line Number free and confidential 24/7 service of support 0800 1111.
Raise the young person's awareness of the dangers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with schools to raise awareness of risk. • Develop or identify internet sites aimed at young people to raise their awareness of the dangers of going missing. They must be young person

	<p>focussed, accessible and user friendly to ensure that young people will be attracted to them and motivated to use them i.e. 'Ask Frank' and 'Think U Know' websites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange inputs by professionals to groups or individuals explaining the dangers. Contact NSPCC Protect and Respect Service country wide CSE specialist service on 01228 521829. • Consider referral through police to Brathay Trust CSE support. • Organise individual or group discussions with adults that the young person respects. • Arrange personal safety training for the young person and family.
Consider the health needs of the young person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual health and contraceptive advice. • Medical treatment if suffering neglect, injury or poor health. • Therapeutic Interventions.
Involve the young person in diversionary activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable the young person to participate in exciting positive activities and leisure activities such as drama or dance. • Activity weekends or team building exercises through multi-agency provision. • Arrange work experience opportunities or vocational training. • Use all agencies involved such as YOS, Police, Voluntary Sector and Social Care.
Make home a more attractive place to live.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify push/pull factors and deal with them. • Tackle relationship problems. • Address domestic violence issues. • Tackle drug/ alcohol problems of other family members. • Consider an alternative placement that gives the young person a feeling of more independence and responsibility. • Consider a placement that has continuity of staff and extra support for evening shifts. • Consider extended stay with a family member in a different city to break the cycle. • Consider specialist placement options.
Achieve normality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforce bed and waking times.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote attendance at school. • Encourage young people to eat together at meal times.
Make school a more attractive place to go.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle bullying, truancy and peer pressure. • Provide 'Personal, Social and Health Education'. • Encourage engagement with alternative and educational provision. • Provide funding for after school activities.
Provide specialist support through other agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual, Drug and Alcohol Counselling and other Services. • Therapeutic Services. • Advocacy Services. • Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). • Involve Youth Services. • Refer to Voluntary Sector for support. • self-referral systems so that young people can refer themselves eg NSPCC and Safety Net . • Provide parent-referral systems that deal with parent's concerns that their young people will be taken into care if they report abuse.
Plan on positive change and set small achievable targets in the child's timescale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets need to be agreed with young person and parents. • Make sure good multi agency communication put the plan and goals in place.
Where a young person is refusing or reluctant to engage, and is involved in soliciting or grooming peers, ensure all engagement and disruption activities detailed above have been considered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where the police are considering criminal action against children and the final decision rests with the police, they should consider consultation with partner agencies through the CSE meetings to ensure that all alternatives and appropriate actions have been considered for that child, in line with ACPO guidance in relation to not criminalising young people where possible.