

**CME SAFEGUARDING CHECKLIST*- Assessing A Child’s Vulnerability***

*Assessing vulnerability requires a combination of professional knowledge and experience of safeguarding and local circumstances. Agencies should follow their own safeguarding procedures and have regard to the Herefordshire levels of need:* [**http://hscb.herefordshire.gov.uk/**](http://hscb.herefordshire.gov.uk/)

*This guidance should be considered when a child is missing from education to ascertain their vulnerability and assist in the decision making process for making a referral.*

Does the child have a formal child protection plan/child in need plan? Is the child ‘looked after’ (LAC)?

Is there a history of domestic violence, parental mental health, parental substance or alcohol misuse?

Has there been adult’s or children’s criminal justice involvement in the past or at present?

Is this child mixing with known offenders?

Is there a good reason to believe that the child may be a victim of crime?

Is this child at risk of sexual exploitation? (please refer to CSE risk assessment)

Are there wider concerns about this child or their family with regards to possible radicalisation? (Please refer to PREVENT guidance)

Are there religious or cultural reasons to believe that the child is at risk?

* Rites of passage or forced marriage planned for the child
* Female genital mutilation
* Historical information relating to older siblings.

Does the child have any health requirements that place the child at risk?

Was the child noted to be depressed/self-harming prior to the unexplained absence?

Is there a person present in, or visiting the family that has convictions for an offence against a **child?**

**YES NO**

If the answer to any of the above is ***yes,*** a referral to MASH should be submitted in the first instance

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