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.

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|  | **YES** | **NO** |
| 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.
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| 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?** |  |  |

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