CSE Day 2019 (#CSEDay19) Key Messages

As an organisation, like many others, the NWG now views CSE through the lens of a broader understanding of child exploitation, encompassing criminal exploitation, trafficking, modern slavery and other forms of adolescent vulnerability. This doesn’t diminish the importance of CSE, it is critical we take the learning from the last five years and apply it where appropriate to other forms of exploitation. It is also vitally important that this move doesn’t leave the children and their families still affected by CSE feeling left behind by this approach. It is in fact an opportunity to look at their needs more holistically and harness the support and services of agencies and professionals not yet fully engaged in the response to CSE.

CSE Awareness Day 2019 will reflect these developments and draw attention to exploitation in a wider context, whilst not losing sight of children who are sexually exploited. We hope you will be able to support the day by sharing our key messages, developing your own and marking the day with events to help raise awareness with professionals and communities alike.

We have chosen five key messages for CSE Awareness day 2019 which are listed below:

1. Exploitation is about more than just CSE, think about criminal exploitation, county lines, trafficking and modern slavery
2. Families can be safeguarding partners
3. The time to build relationships with children and families is crucial.
4. Exploitation and its impact doesn’t stop because you turn 18
5. Communities can tackle exploitation

These key messages are supported by a longer list of messages below which we will be disseminating in the run up to the day and on CSE Awareness Day itself. We would be delighted if you wish to share our key messages and any of your own and share them using the CSEDay19 hashtag. If you want to discuss how you can support the event, please get in touch with us on 01332 585371.

* Look at the bigger picture
* Children and parents are in crisis, they are traumatised.
* Look at children and families through a human lens as well as a professional one.
* Children can’t consent to their exploitation
* Don’t blame, don’t judge. Listen, care and safeguard.
* Get to know children and families for who they are, not what’s happening to them
* Trauma impacts upon us in different ways. A child and their family might not react how you think they should
* The welfare and safety of a child is paramount
* Safeguarding is everybody’s business
* Involve children and young people in decision making, it’s their life
* Children and families need you to believe them
* Victims are never to blame
* Perpetrators target vulnerability not age
* Exploitation doesn’t stop because you turn 18
* Sport – who is responsible for your child?
* Look beyond a child’s behaviour
* Are you listening to voice of the child or voice of the offender?
* Families can be safeguarding partners
* Make meetings work for children and their families
* Exploitation affects all communities
* Indecent images are real children being abused
* Boys are exploited too
* Exploitation doesn’t take place in isolation
* Communities can tackle exploitation
* Make public spaces safe for children
* Don’t assume someone else will report it, take responsibility
* A good relationship with a professional is the best resource a child (and family) can have.
* Exploitation impacts on the whole family
* Recognise Families as Safeguarding Partners
* Build on families and communities’ strengths
* Safeguarding is complex.
* Exploitation is about more than just CSE, think about criminal exploitation, county lines, trafficking and modern slavery
* How trauma-informed are you?
* Young adults are still vulnerable.
* Perpetrators groom children
* The time to build relationships with children and families is crucial.
* Adolescents – don’t see them as problems, see their needs