

# Hope for children and families

Working with parents and carers to support children and young people who have been harmed and are responsible for harmful sexual behaviour

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## Question?

- When you receive a referral about a family that involves problematic or harmful sexual behaviour, what do you find the 3 most difficult things?
- What skills do you think are required to work with these issues?

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## Modules

### Working with families

- Parenting: Promoting safety for children and young people who have been harmed sexually in the family or by a trusted member of the community

### Working with sexual abuse:

- Working with **parents and carers** to support the work
- Working with children **under 12yrs** who have displayed HSB
- Working with adolescents **age 12yrs+** who have displayed HSB
- Developing positive relationships with family and friends

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# SEX

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## What is the level of harmful sexual behaviour?

- Sexual reactivity (under 12's)
- Mutual sexual behaviour
- Children and young people who sexually harm

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## Practitioner briefings

- Give yourself enough preparation time
- Important to read the briefings before starting any interventions
- Advise reading through the support materials
- Continuum of sexual behaviours
- Educational information and tools for parents and carers
- Importance of being able to identify when specialist input is required

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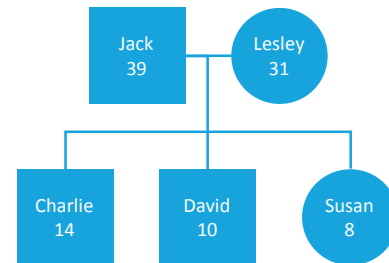
## Assessment

- AIM2
- Structured approach to gathering and analysis of information about a young person, their problematic behaviour, their family and their environment.

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## The family



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- Children's school attendance unreliable
- Recent neglected appearance reported by teachers
- Parents both unemployed and arguing
- Parents asking for help with Charlie's behaviour
- Charlie (14) taking parental responsibility for younger children, is bullying siblings, watching pornography with David in the room
- Charlie has been initiating sexual activity with Susan (8), parents have found Charlie in bed with Susan
- David (10), delayed language and intense closeness with mother
- Susan (8), displaying sexualised behaviour with other children at school

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## Intervention planning

### Key components are:

- Collaborative working
- Safety planning
- What's ok and not ok
- Age appropriate communication about sex
- Hope for the future

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## Mum and Dad

- Family safety plan
- What are age appropriate sexual behaviours?
- What should we be worried about?
- Providing strategies to encourage children to follow privacy and sexual behaviour rules.
- Strategies for building positive relationships
- Promoting safety and future protection

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## Charlie

- Family safety plan
- Negotiating change 'Old me, new me'
- Talking about sex
- What's ok and what's not ok
- Understanding consent
- Developing positive relationships with family and friends

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### Susan

- Staying safe- family and school safety plan
- Building a relationship and engagement
- Understanding effects of abuse on her
- What's ok and not ok touching
- Coping skills
- Describing and monitoring feelings
- Positive relationships
- Building resilience

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### David

- Safety planning in the home
- What's ok and not ok touching
- Building a relationship and engagement
- Coping skills
- Describing and monitoring feelings
- Relaxing and calming
- Working with anxiety problems
- Positive relationships
- Building resilience

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### Supervision

- The importance of regular supervision and case discussion
- Impact on self when working with HSB

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