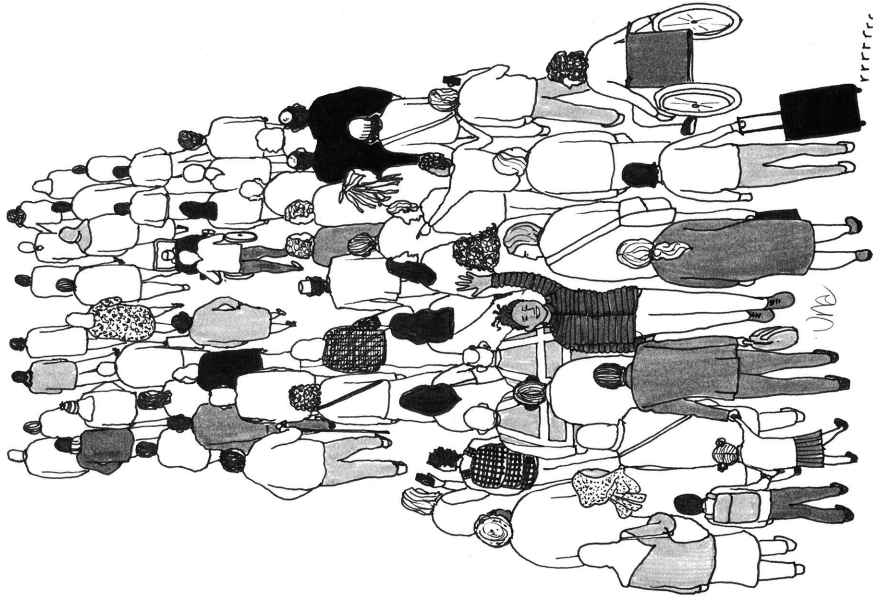


CSE Principles #2. Show us you care.



CSE Principles #2: Show us you care

There is a clear message from young people affected by child sexual exploitation (CSE) that showing care is really important. This means having a compassionate attitude, but it also means demonstrating care through what is actually done: being kept informed about your case and having your needs noticed and met, for example. Young people value professionals who are able to display genuine understanding and thoughtfulness. Having boundaries is part of this – caring enough to have rules in place to protect a young person.

“They make you feel wanted; at home. If you ask for more help, they’ll give you it and they’ll not make you feel awkward for asking for it...They make you feel like you’re not putting anyone out. So you’re not wasting anyone’s time or anything. They’re always there for you.”

(Young person, ‘Helping me find my own way’)

“She [the foster carer] didn’t care to be honest. If I went missing, she’d say ‘Where you been?’ I’d say ‘Out’ and that would be it. She never asked any more questions. She should have convinced me not to, asked me ‘What’s up?’ Sat me down, asked me if I was alright, but she never did.”

(Young person, ‘Barnardo’s Safe Accommodation Project Consultation’)

This is one of ten principles for working with children who are affected by sexual exploitation, created as part of the Alexi Project by the ‘International Centre: Researching child sexual exploitation, violence and trafficking’ at the University of Bedfordshire. Comic illustrations were produced by Una and supported by the Young Researcher’s Advisory Panel. To learn more and view the other postcards visit www.alexiproject.org.uk

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