



ND SEND Specialists Ltd

07979 311812

info@nd-send-specialists.co.uk

<http://nd-send-specialists.co.uk>

ND SEND Specialists Ltd.

Exploitation Policy

Designation	Name	Date	Signature
Director	Joanna Roberts	27/03/2025	J. Roberts

Monitoring & Evaluation	
Original implementation date:	27/03/2025
Review Frequency:	Annually
Date of Next Review:	27/03/2026
Review Delegated To:	N/A

Document Version Control

Version	Changes Made	Date
1.0	Initial Set-up of Policy	27/03/2025



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Exploitation Policy

1. Introduction

ND SEND Specialists Ltd (NDSENDS) is a one-person limited company providing alternative provision for children and young people (CYP), including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), PMLD, and complex needs. The safety and well-being of CYP are paramount. This Exploitation Policy outlines the procedures and measures in place to protect CYP from all forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, and online exploitation.

2. Definition of Exploitation

Exploitation is the abuse of an individual for personal or financial gain. It can take many forms, including:

- **Sexual Exploitation:** Engaging a CYP in sexual activity or making them vulnerable to abuse through manipulation, coercion, or threats.
- **Criminal Exploitation:** The involvement of a CYP in criminal activities, including gangs, trafficking, or drug-related offenses, through threats, manipulation, or coercion.
- **Online Exploitation:** Exploiting a CYP through online platforms, including grooming, sexting, or cyberbullying.

3. Policy Statement

ND SEND Specialists Ltd (NDSENDS) is committed to preventing the exploitation of CYP under our care and will take all necessary steps to protect them from harm. This includes:

- Identifying risks of exploitation.
- Taking immediate action if exploitation is suspected or identified.
- Providing a clear reporting procedure.
- Cooperating with external agencies, including safeguarding boards and law enforcement, to prevent exploitation.



4. Responsibilities

As the sole provider at NDSEND, the responsibility for safeguarding and preventing exploitation lies solely with the director. This includes:

- Ensuring appropriate training in Safeguarding and Exploitation awareness.
- Identifying the early signs of exploitation and taking appropriate action.
- Reporting concerns to the relevant authorities, including the local police or safeguarding teams, if required.

5. Identifying the Signs of Exploitation

Exploitation can be difficult to detect, but signs may include:

- Sudden changes in behaviour or appearance (e.g., new clothing or unexplained gifts).
- Withdrawal from family or friends, or isolation from social groups.
- A reluctance to discuss certain people, places, or activities.
- Physical signs of abuse or neglect.
- A sudden change in school performance or attendance.
- Involvement in risky or criminal behaviours.

6. Procedure for Reporting Exploitation

If there are concerns that a CYP is being exploited or is at risk of exploitation, the following actions must be taken:

- **Step 1:** Immediately inform the parent or guardian if appropriate, while respecting the confidentiality of the child's situation.
- **Step 2:** If the CYP is in immediate danger or at risk of harm, contact **local authorities** (e.g., the police or child protection services) immediately by dialing **999**.
- **Step 3:** Record and document all concerns, signs, and actions taken, including communication with parents or guardians and authorities.
- **Step 4:** In cases where the CYP is not in immediate danger, contact the **local safeguarding board** or relevant authority for further support and advice.



7. Preventative Measures

To prevent exploitation, NDSENDS will:

- Conduct regular safeguarding and exploitation awareness training for any involved parties.
- Engage in open discussions with CYP and families about staying safe from exploitation.
- Encourage CYP to talk openly about their concerns, offering a safe and supportive environment.
- Ensure that all involved in the delivery of services follow clear safeguarding protocols and are fully aware of signs of exploitation.
- Regularly assess the environments and situations in which CYP are placed to ensure no risks of exploitation are present.

8. Responding to Exploitation

If exploitation is suspected or identified, NDSENDS will:

- Immediately involve relevant authorities, including social services, law enforcement, and safeguarding professionals.
- Support the CYP and their family through the process, ensuring their emotional and physical well-being.
- Follow through with any investigations and ensure the CYP's safety is maintained at all times.
- Keep records of all actions taken and follow-up measures to ensure protection from further harm.

9. Confidentiality and Data Protection

All information related to exploitation cases will be handled with the utmost confidentiality.

Information will only be shared with relevant authorities, as required, in accordance with the law.

NDSENDS will adhere to data protection laws to safeguard the privacy of CYP and their families.

10. Review and Compliance

This policy will be reviewed annually or after any exploitation-related incident. Any necessary updates or improvements will be made to strengthen the protection of CYP. Ongoing professional development in safeguarding and exploitation prevention will be maintained through relevant training and support.

For further information, please visit: <http://nd-send-specialists.co.uk>