

What to do now?

If you have identified some **AMBER** or **RED** behaviours, try not to panic. There are many reasons why a child may be showing these behaviours. The most important thing is to keep calm, and to talk to a trusted professional about your concerns., i.e your GP

They will be able to support you to respond appropriately to the behaviours, and work with you and your child to resolve any issues that may arise.



Please visit the websites below for further information on developmentally appropriate sexual behaviours and how to respond;

www.brook.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.barnardos.org.uk

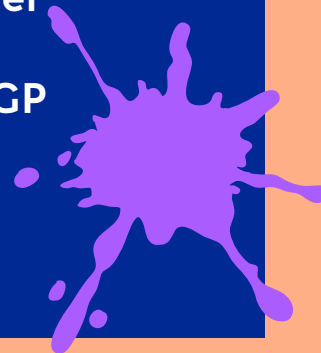
www.stopitnow.org.uk

If you are concerned about your child or someone else's behaviors, please contact;

Your School Nurse

The young person's teacher

Your GP



Understanding Healthy Sexual Behaviours

A parents / carers guide to understanding healthy sexual language and behaviours for children

16 - 18 YEARS



Appropriate behaviours for young people aged 16 - 18 years are also known as green behaviours. These behaviours reflect safe and healthy sexual development.

They are normally displayed between children or young people of similar age or developmental ability, reflective of natural curiosity, experimentation, consensual activities and positive choices.

Some GREEN behaviours are;

- A need for privacy
- Masturbating in private
- Accessing information about sexuality
- Viewing materials for sexual arousal
- Sexually explicit mutual conversations and use of humour with peers
- Interest or participating in a relationship with a person of any gender
- Mutually consenting sexual activity for pleasure, in private, with a partner of similar developmental ability
- Communicating online with peers
- Arranging to meet with an online acquaintance accompanied by a known peer or adult

Amber behaviours have the potential to be outside of safe and healthy behaviour.

They may be: unusual for that particular child or young person, or of potential concern due to age, or developmental differences. They may also raise potential concern due to activity type, frequency, duration or context in which they occur.

Some AMBER behaviours are;

- Sexual preoccupation which interferes with daily function
- Viewing of others while they are engaged in sexual activity or nudity
- Explicit communications, art or actions which are obscene or sexually intimidating
- Sexual activity in exchange for material items or privileges
- Exposure of private parts in a public place with peers e.g. flashing
- Unprotected or unsafe sexual behaviour
- An indication of a sexually transmitted infection or unplanned pregnancies
- Arranging a meeting with an online acquaintance with the knowledge of a known peer or adult

Red behaviours are outside of safe and healthy behaviour

Red behaviours may involve excessive, secretive, compulsive, coercive, degrading or threatening actions, will involve significant age, developmental, or power differences. Frequency, curation and the context of the behaviour also needs to be considered.

Some RED behaviours are;

- Compulsive masturbation
- Preoccupation with sexually aggressive or illegal pornography
- Disclosure of sexual abuse or sexual assault
- Sexual contact and activities with animals
- Forcing or manipulating others into sexual activity
- Engaging others in a process to gain sexual gratification by using manipulation, coercion
- Creating, possessing, accessing or sending child exploitation materials
- Harassing or coercing others to take or send sexual images videos or audio
- Deliberately sending or publishing sexual images videos or audio of another person without their consent
- Arranging to meet with an online acquaintance without the knowledge of a known peer or adult