

# Identifying and responding to child sexual abuse – for policing professionals

*One-day course*

£1,400 + VAT for 6 to 50 participants



**Please note:** There is an increased fee to deliver this course face-to-face.

## About the course

This one-day course, covering the same material as our [introductory course](#) and more, addresses the critical points that officers need to understand so they can confidently recognise and deal effectively with child sexual abuse incidents and cases. Delivered by former police officers, it is aimed at both frontline officers and those in specialist PVP (Protecting Vulnerable People) / child protection roles.

## What you can expect to learn

- A better understanding of:
  - the scale and nature of child sexual abuse, and why it is so important for police officers to have both knowledge of child sexual abuse and the confidence to apply professional curiosity to every situation/incident they attend
  - the different contexts in which child sexual abuse takes place, and how child sexual abuse offending manifests itself in many different ways
  - how the impact and trauma of child sexual abuse presents in children/young people and in the wider family – so that officers can better understand the barriers that children and families face in coming to terms with the abuse and engaging with the police, and *why* so little child sexual abuse is reported straight away
  - how children communicate their experiences of sexual abuse, and the police role in helping them do this
  - the potential signs and indicators of sexual abuse and sexually abusive behaviour – an opportunity for officers to understand how they can contribute to the police investigation
  - medical examinations for children – what happens at a sexual assault referral centre (SARC), and the medical examination's purposes and benefits over and above the opportunity it presents to obtain forensic evidence
  - police powers – a reminder of the powers that can be used in potential cases of child sexual abuse, and the necessity test to be applied when dealing with people suspected of such abuse.
- Ways to approach working with parents, carers, children and multi-agency partners.
- Greater confidence in identifying and responding to concerns of child sexual abuse.

- An opportunity to work through a real-life case study and apply learning from the day as well as pose questions to the trainer, who has significant experience of investigating sexual abuse cases in both frontline and senior policing roles.

## Additional resources

- PowerPoint slides for attendees to refer back to and keep for reflection.
- Digital copies of the CSA Centre's *Key messages from research on intra-familial child sexual abuse and child sexual abuse perpetrated by adults*
- A digital copy of *Signs and indicators: A template for identifying and responding to concerns of child sexual abuse*.
- A digital copy of *Communicating with children: A guide for those working with children who have or may have been sexually abused*.
- A digital copy of *Supporting parents and carers: A guide for those working with families affected by child sexual abuse*.
- References and resources list.

## What past attendees said about this course

**“This is exactly what we have been missing for years, to plug the hole left by SCAIDP, to help officers actually do the job.”**

**Police Vulnerability/SCAIDP trainer**

**“Rarely do I see a training session keep people’s attention for the whole day ... This is a real boon to new officers and a tremendous reassurance to more experienced officers who have never had validation for their methods.”**

**Detective Sergeant – Force training co-ordinator**

**“The reason why a ‘disclosure’ is not made and the fact you can go back and spend time has given me confidence to do this.”**

**Police Constable**

**“I will definitely be taking what I have learnt forward. I have gained a lot from today.”**

**Police Constable**

