Alright Charlie?

Guidance for Teachers and Other Professionals
Introduction

‘Alright Charlie’ is a preventative resource pack that addresses child sexual exploitation (CSE) and grooming in a way that is age appropriate.

This resource was funded by The Department for Education and was created by The BLAST Project – the UK’s leading male only CSE service.

Unlike many other CSE resources ‘Alright Charlie’ aims to address grooming and CSE in a way that is equally inclusive of, and accessible to both girls and boys.

The resource has been created and developed in consultation with professionals who have considerable experience in the field of CSE and professionals with experience of working with primary aged children.

Aim
To reduce young people’s risk of grooming and CSE.

Objectives
For young people to be able to:
- Identify the warning signs of grooming and CSE
- Identify at least one trusted adult they would talk to about grooming and CSE
- Highlight how they would talk to this trusted adult

Target Group
Boys and girls in years 5 and 6 in primary school (ages 9 – 11).
Professionals may feel this resource is also appropriate to use with children and young people in year 7 in secondary schools.

**Time**
90 minutes.

**Delivery**
The resource and accompanying film have been created to be delivered to groups of young people; however it can also be delivered to young people on a 121 basis.

This guidance recommends pausing the film at certain points where a number of issues can be addressed using the activities in the work booklet; however the film can be played continuously without pausing if preferred.

This guidance includes the following headings:

- **Do** Tasks for the facilitator to complete e.g. pausing and playing the film.

- **Ask** Questions for the facilitator to ask the young people e.g. “what has Danny done that concerns you?” We suggest allowing the young people to respond truthfully and honestly before explaining.

- **Explain** Information for the facilitator to share that provides further details e.g. “what Danny has done is illegal.” This section also includes sharing any answers that have not been covered.

After each section a tick box is provided.
Before the Session

Resources Needed

- Copies of the ‘Alright Charlie’ booklet for young people
- Guidance for teachers and other professionals
- Facilities to show the ‘Alright Charlie’ film
- ‘Alright Charlie’ film

Gender

Do not refer to Charlie as ‘he’ or ‘she’. If anyone asks if Charlie is a boy or a girl, explain that you do not know and that Charlie’s gender is not important, Danny’s behaviour is.

Many professionals wrongly believe that it is only girls that need CSE awareness and that it isn’t as much of an issue for boys. Anonymising the gender allows for this myth to be challenged.

Language

The resource focuses more on grooming than CSE. The facilitator should consider if it is appropriate to mention the phrase ‘child sexual exploitation.’

Safeguarding

We recommend that before starting the session, the facilitator has some basic awareness of CSE, views the film, is familiar with their organisation’s safeguarding procedures and has completed any other relevant procedures.

Some of the young people attending the session may have previously experienced grooming and CSE and this may be unknown to the facilitator. Facilitators should consider giving the young people notice prior to the session taking place.
Introducing ‘Alright Charlie’

Do Give each young person a copy of the ‘Alright Charlie’ booklet.

Explain The session is about unsafe adults.

Ask young people

1. What they think of when they hear ‘unsafe adults?’
2. What they think an unsafe adult looks like?

Explain

1. Unsafe adults can be strangers but they can also be people you know.
2. You can’t tell if an adult is unsafe from what they look like but you can sometimes tell from what they do. This is what the short film is about.
3. The film is seen through the eyes of 10 year old Charlie.
5. The film will be paused at certain points so discussions can take place and the young people can complete their work books.
6. Young people can ask for time out if they feel too uncomfortable.
Part 1: Is This OK?

**Ask** young people to write their name on the front of their work book.

**Do** Play the film and pause it when prompted to.

**Ask** young people to:

1. Turn to page 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.
2. Share their answers one at a time by putting their hands up and saying what they think Danny has done that is not OK and why.

**Explain** the answers below and why they are not OK:

1. **Danny offered Charlie alcohol.**
   This is not OK because Charlie is too young to drink alcohol and Danny might want to get Charlie drunk so it’s easier for him to hurt Charlie.

2. **Danny showed Charlie rude images.**
   This is not OK because Charlie is too young to watch these images.

3. **Danny told Charlie to keep secrets from Mum.**
   This is not OK because a safe adult should not tell children to keep secrets from their parents/carers.

   Explain that some secrets are OK to keep and some are not. Secrets that are OK to keep are ones when other safe adults know about the secret e.g. keeping someone’s surprise party a secret.
4. Danny gave Charlie a phone. □
   This is not OK because Danny wants Charlie to keep it a secret and he might expect Charlie to pay him back later, by doing unsafe things. A phone is the sort of gift parents/carers should give you. □

5. Danny sent Charlie an inappropriate selfie. □
   This is not OK because Danny is too old to be sending topless images to Charlie. □

6. Danny asked Charlie to send selfies. □
   This is not OK because Danny is too old to be asking Charlie to send selfies. □

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**Explain**

1. Danny is not a stranger. Lots of adults that hurt young people are often already known to the young person. □

2. Danny is showing signs that he is an unsafe adult. □

3. Charlie has done nothing wrong and should not get into trouble. It is Danny that should get into trouble. □

4. Charlie could talk to a safe adult now, even though nothing 'scary' seems to have happened. □

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**Ask** young people to:

1. Turn to page 2 and answer questions 3 and 4. □

2. Raise their hands to highlight the scenarios which they think are unsafe and why. □
1. All of the options in question 3 are unsafe selfies to send. ☐

2. They identify where a young person visits e.g. their school or where they go swimming. This is unsafe, especially if the selfies are being shared with unknown people online. ☐

3. They show young people in a state of undress. When a selfie is sent the young person loses control of it and it could end up anywhere and with anyone. It is safer for young people to share selfies of themselves clothed rather than in a state of undress. ☐

4. They show young people with no clothes on. Once a young person sends an image of themselves with no clothes on to someone aged under 18 they could get into trouble with the police. ☐

Ask young people to share their answers to question 4 one at a time by putting their hands up and saying which points they think will keep young people safe online. ☐

Explain all of the points in question 4 will keep young people safer online. ☐

Ask young people to raise their hand if they will now carry out the points in question 4 to keep themselves safer online. ☐
**Part 2: Is This OK?**

**Do**  Play the film and pause it when prompted to.

**Ask**  young people to:
1. Turn to page 3 and answer questions 5 and 6.
   
2. Share their answers to question 5 and 6 one at a time by putting their hands up and saying **what** they think Danny has done that is not OK, **why** it’s not OK and **why** they think Danny has done what he’s done.

**Explain**  the answers below, why they are not OK and why Danny has done what he’s done:

1. **Danny got his friends to follow Charlie on Instapix.**
   
   This is not OK because Danny’s friends are too old to be following Charlie online and Charlie doesn’t know them and has never met them.

   Danny has done this because he wants to make Charlie feel popular and grown up and he wants Charlie to think he’s a cool person.

2. **Danny told Charlie to lie to Mum about going to town.**
   
   This is not OK because a safe adult does not tell young people to lie or keep secrets from their parents/carers.

   Danny has done this because he doesn’t want Charlie’s Mum to know about his inappropriate behaviour and Danny knows he could get into trouble.
3. Danny took a photo of Charlie getting changed without permission. □
   This is not OK because getting changed is something that should be done in private and a safe adult does not take photos of a young person taking their clothes off. □
   Danny has done this because he wants to look at or share images of Charlie getting changed or with no clothes on but he has made Charlie think he just wanted to see Charlie in the new top. □

   This is not OK because a safe adult would not lie to a young person’s family about their whereabouts. □
   Danny has done this because he doesn’t want Max to know Charlie is with him. □

5. Danny bought Charlie a new top. □
   This is not OK because this is something a parent/carer should do. Unsafe adults give young people gifts to make them feel that they owe them something. □
   Danny has done this because he wants Charlie to think he’s a nice and safe adult and he wants Charlie to want to spend more time with him. Danny might want Charlie to pay him back later by doing something unsafe. □

Danny invited Charlie to his flat and keep it a secret. □
This is not OK because safe adults will not invite young people to a place and ask them to keep it a secret, especially where there are unknown adults. Danny is over 18 meaning his friends probably are too. This means there may be unsuitable films and alcohol that might make Charlie feel uncomfortable/unsafe. □
Danny has done this because he wants to make Charlie feel grown up and has used pizza and a film to tempt Charlie. He also wants to separate Charlie from safe people such as their family and introduce unknown/unsafe people/situations.

**Ask** young people:
1. To look at point 2 under question 6: Why is Danny doing this? To be Charlie’s friend
2. Did anyone think Danny really wanted to be Charlie’s friend?
3. When they're 19 would they want 10 year old friends?

**Explain**
1. Danny doesn’t really want to be Charlie’s friend and that he is doing all of this to convince Charlie that he is a safe person.
2. What Danny is doing is called grooming and that this is when someone convinces a young person that they are a safe and trustworthy person so they can hurt and abuse them.
3. Even though Charlie has lied and kept secrets it is Danny that should get into trouble, not Charlie.

**Ask** young people to:
1. Turn to page 4 and answer questions 7 and 8.
2. Share their answers to question 7 and 8 one at a time by putting their hands up and saying what they think Charlie could say to Danny and who Charlie could tell that this is happening.
1. For question 7 the **safe** answers are answers 2 and 4. These include taking a safe adult and not going at all. ☐

2. For question 7 the **unsafe** answers are 1 and 6. These include going to Danny’s and even taking some friends. Charlie might feel safe taking some friends but Danny could have more of his friends who are unsafe. ☐

3. For question 7 the answers that **might** keep Charlie safe are 3 and 5. These are safe answers if Charlie decides not to go to Danny’s but they are unsafe if Charlie decides to go. ☐

4. For question 8 the **safe** answers are 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8. These include talking to safe adults. ☐

5. For question 8 the **unsafe** answers are 7, 9 and 10. These include talking to people you don’t know, haven’t met and might not help. ☐

6. It is OK for Charlie to tell Max, Luke or Kayleigh as long as a safe adult is also informed. ☐

**Explain** young people to turn to page 5. ☐

**Explain** that it is good for Charlie to know who to tell about what Danny is doing but it’s important to know how to tell and what words to use. ☐

**Ask** young people to:

1. Answer question 9. ☐

2. Share their answers by putting their hands up and saying **what** they think Charlie could say. ☐
1. Option 3 is the best answer but options 1 and 4 might be OK if young people feel uncomfortable saying 'grooming.'

2. Option 1 is not a safe answer.

Part 3: Charlie Goes To Danny’s Flat

Do Play the film and pause it when prompted to.

Explain

1. We do not know exactly what Danny did to Charlie but he did something unsafe.

2. Danny could have:
   - Touched Charlie inappropriately.
   - Made Charlie touch him or others inappropriately.
   - Made Charlie undress.
   - Hurt Charlie.

3. This has happened because Danny groomed Charlie.

4. You will now show what happened to Danny.

Part 4: At The Police Station

Explain that you will now play the film until the end.
young people to listen for words like 'grooming' and 'sexual exploitation.'

Play the film until the end.

young people to turn to page 6 and answer question 10.

1. Danny has been arrested because he groomed Charlie and this is illegal.

2. Danny might have done other bad things but he is at the police station now for grooming Charlie.

3. You can’t tell if someone is unsafe by looking at them but you can tell if someone might be unsafe by the things they **DO** and **SAY**. These are called **WARNING SIGNS**.

young people to turn to page 7.

1. These are warning signs and if someone does or says some of these they might be trying to groom you and that it’s important to tell a safe adult.

2. One of these signs on their own may not be a definite sign of grooming. Young people should talk to a safe adult if unsure.

young people to look at the warning signs on page 7 and say which ones were in the film by putting their hands up.
1. All of the warning signs on page 7 featured in the film. ☐

2. These warning signs mean there is a good chance that the person who is displaying them is an unsafe person and could be grooming someone. ☐

3. If anyone knows about people who are doing some of the things on page 7 it might mean they are grooming someone and that it’s important to tell a safe adult. ☐

**Ask** young people to:

1. Turn to page 8 and write or draw an alternative ending to the film or what Charlie could do now. **Only do this activity if there is time.** ☐

2. Share their alternative endings. ☐

**Ask** young people to turn to pages 9 and 10. ☐

**Explain**

1. These pages contain contact details of people and services who can provide more information, help and support. ☐

2. Who the right person in school is for the young person to talk to and of any other local services. ☐

**Who can help?**

- A teacher in school
- Your parents/careers
- Other safe adults

ChildLine 0800 111 111
email childline.org.uk

The BLAST Project (Boys) 0113 2442026 / 07923 672006
email main@co.uk/blast

Basis (Girls) 0113 2440056
email info@basisuk.org
3. The booklet is for the young person to keep. ☐

4. The positive changes young people can make at home e.g. safe passwords and security settings etc. ☐

Ask young people to raise their hand and give examples of what they will now do differently to keep themselves and others safe. ☐

Examples can include:
1. Changing social media settings (privacy, security etc.)
2. Removing unknown people from social media accounts
3. Telling a safe adult about someone they think is grooming
4. Something else

The End