



## Key information to support education staff in making a decision:

### Key questions to consider:

- What is the nature and context of the concerning behaviour?
- What ages are the people involved (including any adults), and any power imbalance?
- What is the developmental stage of the young person/s involved?
- Is there a pattern or escalation in concerning behaviour?
- Is there any evidence of illegal behaviour, malicious intent, threats, coercion, grooming, exploitation or violence?
- Are there any relevant factors, circumstances, or vulnerabilities that need to be considered?
- What has been the impact for the young person/s?
- What are the wishes of the young person/s concerned?
- Is there any immediate risk to the young person/s?
- Is any further information required?
- Do I need to make any further referrals or contact anyone else?

### Hackett's Continuum of Abuse

Normal	Inappropriate	Problematic	Abusive	Violent
Developmentally expected	Single instances of inappropriate sexual behaviour	Problematic and concerning behaviours	Victimising intent or outcome	Physically violent sexual abuse
Socially acceptable	Socially acceptable behaviour within peer group	Developmentally unusual and socially unexpected	Includes misuse of power	Highly intrusive
Consensual, mutual, reciprocal	Context for behaviour may be inappropriate	No overt elements of victimisation	Coercion and force to ensure victim compliance	Instrumental violence which is physiologically and/or sexually arousing to the perpetrator
Shared decision making	Generally consensual and reciprocal	Consent issues may be unclear	Intrusive	Sadism
		May lack reciprocity or equal power	Informed consent lacking, or not able to be freely given by victim	
		May include levels of compulsivity	May include elements of expressive violence	
		Likely to have a negative impact on YP (confusion/ anxiety/ fear/ distress)		

**Examples of Technology Assisted - Harmful Sexual Behaviour in relation  
Hackett's Continuum of Abuse**

<b>Normal</b>	<b>Inappropriate</b>	<b>Problematic</b>	<b>Abusive</b>	<b>Violent</b>
Viewing of illegal pornographic material	An older person (over age 18) requesting a sexual image	Young person posting self-generated images to make money	Young person being coerced, blackmailed or groomed to send sexual pictures or (consider capacity to understand CSE/ grooming/ consent)	Young person using actual violence to gain compliance, could include on and offline bullying or physical violence
Age 15 male asking age 15 girlfriend for a 'nude' picture. Developmentally 'normal' however producing and sharing IIOC is illegal	Sending an image that was consensual and reciprocal in nature	Young person distributing self-generated images of other young people in the school	A young person being coerced, blackmailed or groomed to engage in sexual activity	Sexual harassment and threats using a number of media platforms. Technology assisted sexual assault - getting the person to comply with behaviour having already shared 'compromising' pictures (similar to non-consensual sharing of intimate images ('revenge porn'))
	Age 16 young person sending a nude image to a girl/boy he fancies	Taking pictures of other pupils while making sexual comments and engaging in sexualised behaviour	A young person viewing sexual imagery depicting younger children	Content depicts sexualised violence and/ or sexual abuse of children/young people
	Age 16 young person sending a nude image to a girl/boy for a joke	Sending anonymous self-produced sexual images or messages to other young people	Secretly filming someone in changing rooms	
		Age 15 young person consensually sharing self-produced images online anonymously with adults or younger children	Non-consensual sharing of intimate images ('revenge porn')	