



For everyone who works at the home, bank and agency staff included: for induction and the team meeting. It names no street and no address; keep it in the staff office, not on a wall the children or visitors can see.

This is a sample. It is drawn from a point that is not a children's home, with the postcode, the local authority, the police force and the names of streets, places and schools changed. The figures are real and describe one area in England.

1 The area around the home

- Police-recorded crime and anti-social behaviour within 500 metres, leaving out the 200 metres closest to the home: 636 records in the twelve months to August 2026, most often violence and sexual offences and anti-social behaviour.
- UK Crime Statistics' county lines indicator is detected for the area to August 2026: a prompt to stay alert to county lines, not evidence about any child.
- Across Sample Borough, social workers record child sexual exploitation, gangs, going missing, trafficking and self-harm more often than across England.
- In Sample Borough, 11% of the children the authority looked after had a missing incident during the year, against 11% across England.
- Injury collisions within a kilometre, 2021 to 2025: 126, with 8 casualties under sixteen.

2 What to be alert to

- Signs of criminal and sexual exploitation: unexplained money, phones, clothes or gifts; new older friends; a child picked up or dropped off by cars you do not know; going missing, or coming back tired, hungry or hurt; changes in mood.
- Adults or older young people who take an interest in the children: offers of lifts, alcohol, drugs, cigarettes or somewhere to stay, near the home or online.
- Going missing: every absence is reported as the missing child procedures set out, and the return is an opportunity to listen to where the child has been and with whom.
- A place rather than a child: a car that waits nearby, a group that gathers, a house where children are taken. Note the time, the place and what you saw.

3 Who to tell

- Any concern about a child: tell the registered manager or the senior on shift straight away, and write it down before the end of the shift.
- If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.
- A child missing: follow the missing child procedures and the local protocol, report to Sample Police as they set out, and tell the placing authority.
- A concern about a place rather than a child: tell the registered manager, who passes it to Sample Police as intelligence.
- Our local arrangements: Sample Borough Safeguarding Children Partnership.
- A concern about an adult who works with children: tell the registered manager or the responsible individual, who contacts the local authority designated officer.

Registered manager: _____

Deputies: _____

What this cannot tell you

- These figures describe the area and the local authority. They say nothing about the children living here, and a quiet area is no guarantee for any child.
- Recorded crime counts what was reported to the police, and the 200 metres closest to the home are left out. Your knowledge of a child always outweighs a figure.

Confidential: the location of a children's home

From the location assessment evidence pack. Department for Education; Ofsted; police-recorded crime via UK Crime Statistics; Department for Transport; Office for Health Improvement and Disparities. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.