

# ● WE SEE YOU.

THE CLEWER INITIATIVE

# 1

## KS3 BREAKING COUNTY LINES LESSON 1

### WHAT CHILDREN NEED TO KNOW



# WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN OUR NEXT 3 COUNTY LINES LESSONS.

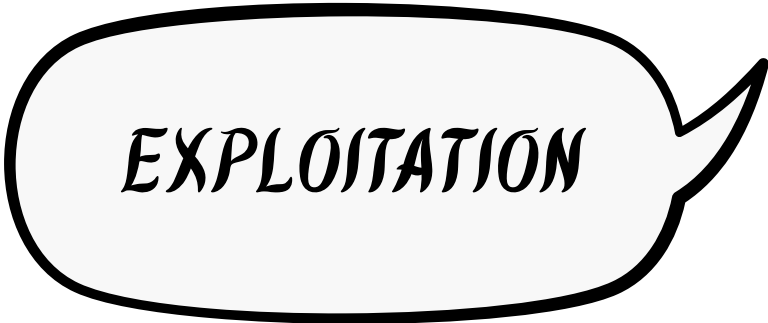
- What County Lines is.
- What effect County Lines has on children, young people, families and your neighbours.
- The role of the police in protecting children from county lines.
- How you can protect yourself.



# WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU HEAR THESE WORDS?



GANGS



EXPLOITATION



ILLEGAL DRUGS



SLAVERY



# WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU HEAR THESE WORDS?

**BELONGING**

FRIENDSHIP

**FREE GIFTS**

FAMILY



Young people are  
being promised  
this:

FAMILY

BELONGING

FRIENDSHIP

FREE GIFTS

...but are actually  
experiencing  
this:

EXPLOITATION

ILLEGAL DRUGS

GANGS

SLAVERY



# WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THIS FILM?

Emma's Story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-JuSVRtmns>



**THE CLEWER**  
• INITIATIVE

WHY IS COUNTY LINES SO SUCCESSFUL? (1/7)

# COUNTY LINES IS A FORM OF CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION.

Criminal Exploitation is when a child or young person is befriended and then taken advantage of and controlled for a criminal purpose.

e.g. forced shoplifting and theft, selling or distributing drugs, and forced begging



# WHY IS IT CALLED COUNTY LINES?

The 'lines' refers to the mobile phone lines that are used to purchase drugs, or control a young person who is delivering drugs, sometimes to towns outside their home county.



In the last few years County Lines has become one of the most common forms of modern slavery in the UK.



Children and young people are used because they are easier to control, they can be deceived into working for little or no pay and are less likely to be detected.



# COUNTY LINES TARGETS

Young people aged between 14-17 are the most likely to be targeted by criminal groups but there are reports of 7 year olds being groomed into county lines.

Primary school children are seen as easy targets because they're less likely to get caught.



# HOW KIDS ARE GROOMED

The grooming might start with them being given gifts, building trust, then asked to 'keep watch' but it soon escalates to them being forced to carry weapons, money or drugs.

*“The grooming’s so strong that rewards seem worth the risks. It seems better to stay away from parents and go with this “new family” that are going to look after you and provide for you... in the end, they dont.”*

# Children and young people may become involved in gangs for many reasons

Including:

- peer pressure and wanting to fit in with their friends;
- they want to feel respected and important;
- they want to feel protected from other gangs, or bullies;
- they want to make money, and are promised rewards;
- they want to gain status, and feel powerful;
- they've been excluded from school and don't feel they have a future.



# REFLECTION QUESTIONS:



Who do you trust?

What makes  
someone  
trustworthy?



# WHO DO YOU TRUST?

**HONEST**

THEY HAVE YOUR BEST  
INTERESTS AT HEART

**COMPASSIONATE**

Always there  
for you

Reliable - they do what  
they say they will

**AVAILABLE WHEN  
YOU NEED THEM**

HUMBLE

Unselfish



# Where to go if you are worried or need help

When something is worrying you, it's always better to talk to someone you trust rather than keep it inside. There are lots of adults and organisations who are here to help.



**School  
Community  
Police Officer**



**Teacher or  
trusted adult**



**0800 555111**



**modern slavery &  
exploitation helpline**

**08000 121 700**