



# Children are being exploited by gangs involved in drug crime. **Know the signs to spot.**

County lines gangs use children and vulnerable people to courier drugs and money. A young person who is involved in county lines activity might exhibit some of these signs:



Persistently going missing from school or home, or being found out-of-area



Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes or mobile phones



excessive receipt of texts or phone calls



Relationships with controlling, older individuals or gang association



Leaving home or care without explanation



Suspicion of self-harm, physical assault or unexplained injuries



Parental concerns



Significant decline in school performance



Significant changes in emotional well-being

**If you see something that doesn't feel right, or looks suspicious, concerning a child or young person you should report it to us online or call us on 101, or 999 in an emergency. Alternatively, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.**



Home Office

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Fighting Organised Crime in Partnership



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Children travelling on buses, or coaches, may be being exploited by gangs involved in drug crime.

**Know the signs to spot.**

County lines gangs use children to courier drugs and money across the country. Many of these children travel by bus or coach.

Have you seen a child, sometimes as young as 12, travelling long distances alone?



They might seem unfamiliar with the local area, or not have a local accent



They could be travelling during school hours or unusual hours (early in the morning, late at night)



Are they travelling the same route on a regular basis (once or twice a week)?



They could be receiving excessive texts or phone calls



Are they deliberately avoiding authority figures such as police officers or other members of staff?



Some may be with older individuals who are purchasing tickets for them or giving them money for tickets.

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## Children travelling on trains may be being exploited by gangs involved in drug crime. **Know the signs to spot.**

County lines gangs use children to courier drugs and money across the country. A high proportion of these children travel on trains.

Have you seen a child, sometimes as young as 12, travelling long distances alone?



They might seem unfamiliar with the local area, or not have a local accent



They could be travelling during school hours or unusual hours (early in the morning, late at night)



Are they travelling the same route on a regular basis (once or twice a week)?



They could be receiving excessive texts or phone calls



Are they deliberately avoiding authority figures such as police officers or railway staff?



Some may be with older individuals who are purchasing tickets for them or giving them money for tickets.

**If you see something that doesn't feel right, or looks suspicious, concerning a child or young person you should report it to us online or call us on 101, or 999 in an emergency. Alternatively, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.**



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