EDUCAP GUIDE. Prevention, detection and action in cases of Child Sexual Abuse

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BRACKGROUND

Sexual violence against children is a serious problem affecting millions of children worldwide.

In Spain, it is estimated that one in five children has suffered from sexual abuse before the age of 18.

In response, the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) programme from the European Union has funded a research project titled "Multiplying Educational Capacities to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children (EDUCAP)". The project is a collaboration between the University of Valencia, the University of Barcelona, the University Carlos III of Madrid, and Save the Children.

One of the aims of this project was to prepare a guide for teachers about child sexual abuse (CSA). The guide's purpose is to improve the knowledge and skills of teachers in the prevention, detection, and intervention on child sexual abuse cases.

METHOD & ACTIVITIES

The guide was elaborated by the project partners and a **multidisciplinary group of experts** from different entities, including academic experts, public administration, and entities of child sexual abuse victims, disability, and others.

It presents **CSA cases** as examples, for a better understanding of the different steps in the detection and intervention, showing the heterogeneity of situations in CSA.

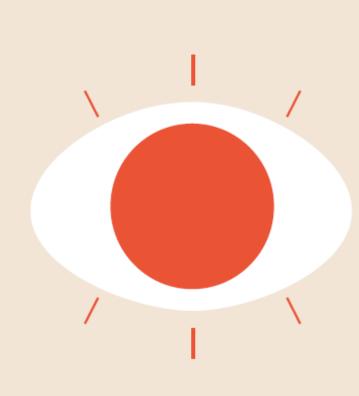
Talking and understanding

Definition, prevalence and impact of child sexual abuse; dimensions and myths of CSA.



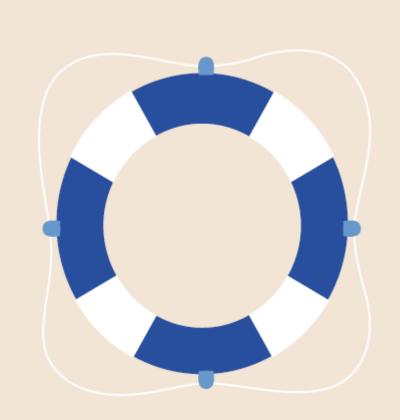
Preventing

Risk and protective factors associate with CSA; recommendations for creating a safe environment for children in schools and at home.



Detecting: knowing how to see and how to listen

How to detect signs of CSA; how to intervene with children who disclose abuse and; how to promote the disclosure when we suspect of CSA.



Taking action

How to respond to CSA cases, including legal and ethical considerations, as well as the official protocols in Valencia.



Emotional support

Victims' support in the school context. Self-care for teachers.

DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE IN ENGLISH HERE:



More information: https://proyectoeducap.eu/

CHALLENGES & NEXT STEPS

To provide knowledge and skills on how to prevent, detect, and intervene in cases of child sexual abuse to teachers, it has the potential to **create a safer environment for children in schools**.

Several guides, protocols and manuals about child sexual abuse have been developed in the last years, but most of these materials are unknown by the professionals who work with children and adolescents. A **good dissemination strategy** is necessary in this type of projects, to ensure that the tools developed are accessible to the professionals, such as teachers or caregivers.

