



Key messages:

- Using domestic abuse language ‘victim’ and ‘perpetrator’ is not helpful
- Police and parents do not want to criminalise these young people
- If there is current adult-to adult domestic abuse in the household, this must be addressed before work on CPVA can start
- Workers trained in Respect and ‘Non Violent Restraint’ can offer advice to universal services supporting parents and children experiencing CPVA.
- CPVA Briefing and Toolkit training is available via ncc.learningpool.com for the children’s workforce.
- Adult services should contact socialcaretraining@nhct.nhs.uk for CPVA training information.

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What is CPVA?

There is currently no legal definition, but Northumbria Police define it as “ any harmful act or behaviour by a child aged 10-18 yrs, whether physical, psychological, emotional or financial, towards a parent/guardian or carer”. CPVA may present as a single violent incident, but is more likely to be a pattern of behaviour including damage to person or property, threats, stealing from the parent, humiliation or verbal abuse. As with adult-to-adult domestic abuse, CPVA includes controlling or coercive behaviour.
CPVA is more than being a ‘stropky teenager’

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And here in Northumberland:

CPVA is particularly relevant in Northumberland because of our Domestic Homicide Review, ‘Sarah’. This focused on the death of a mother who was stabbed by her 16 year old son who had significant learning and mental health difficulties. CPVA is an NSSP priority and regional guidance is available [here](#)

Child to Parent Violence and Abuse

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Safeguarding Adults Procedures

Safeguarding adults’ duties apply when an adult with needs for care and support is at risk of abuse and neglect (including domestic abuse/CPVA)

In accordance with the pathway, Adults and Children’s Social Care will work together to develop safety plans.

Key message: the safeguarding of both children and adults must be considered

Identifying and Referral

Northumbria Police identify CPVA via Child Concern Notifications, and where appropriate Adult Concern Notifications, when they are called to domestic abuse incidents. Adults and Children’s Social Care use the [CPVA Pathway](#) to consider the safety of the child and the adult. Referrals should be made via One Call (01670 534600)

Some Possible Signs and Indicators

- Physical violence
- Damage to property
- Abusive to siblings
- Humiliation / belittling
- Theft from parent/family
- Threats to use weapons
- Obsessive use of violent games
- Disengagement from education / school refusal
- Parent fearful of child
- Substance Misuse
- Self harm / suicidal tendencies

Family Context

CPVA has no single explanation and can occur in any family. However there are some vulnerability factors:

- History of domestic violence and abuse
- Polarisation of parenting styles
- Attachment difficulties
- Bereavement
- Mental health difficulties including conduct disorders or neuro-developmental disorders
- Learning difficulties

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<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Care/Support/Safeguarding.aspx>

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Children/Safeguarding.aspx>

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