NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice Centre (CTAC)

Understanding the experiences of young people forced to move across borders

A resource for professionals to use with young people who have been forced into migration and may have stayed in camps in northern France.

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR
This resource is designed for young people and the practitioners working with young people, for example social workers and support workers.

Young people who are forced to move across borders are at high risk of abuse and trafficking. The questions in this workbook aim to help practitioners understand a young person’s journey from their home country to the UK, supporting practitioners to identify abuse, exploitation and trafficking.

Not all of the questions need to be answered and there are no right or wrong answers. Some questions might not be relevant for a young person because of their age or experiences.

There are five different sections in this resource:

1. Life at home
2. On the move
3. Staying in camps in northern France
4. Arriving in the UK
5. The future

It may be useful to split the workbook into five separate sessions, according to the sections. If the young person has not spent time in a camp in northern France, please skip section three.

For further advice or information relating to child trafficking, professionals can contact the NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice Centre on 020 3772 9513 or email ctac@nspcc.org.uk.

Childline is a free, 24/7 helpline offering advice and support to children and young people up to 18 years old. Young people can call 0800 1111 or visit childline.org.uk.
About me

My name is:
......................................................................................................................

The person helping me fill out this workbook is:
......................................................................................................................

I started this workbook on:
......................................................................................................................

I finished this workbook on:
......................................................................................................................
1. **Tell me about your life at home.** Who did you live with at home? What did you like doing? If you want, you can draw a picture of your home below.

My home

Who I lived with

I liked to...
Section 1

2. **What education have you had?** Write down the things you have learnt about. It could be from school or other types of learning. You can also write down what you would like to learn.

3. **What have been your experiences or views of officials, like police and army, in your home country?** Circle the smiley face below and if you want to, explain your answer.
Section 2: On the move

4. Why did you have to leave your home? What was happening around you?

5. What were you able to take with you? You can write or draw pictures of what you took with you next to the backpack, along with what you wish you could have taken.
Section 2

6. **Do you know who planned your journey and paid for it?** Did you know where you were going?

7. **Did you travel with anyone?** Did you travel with the same people all the way to the **UK**? Were they people in your family, or people you knew? Were there other children?
Section 2

8. **What transport did you use on your journey?** Circle the pictures and if you want to, write about it below.

![Transport options]

9. **How long did your journey take?** From the day you left home, to when you arrived in the UK.
Section 2

10. **Do you know which countries you travelled through to get to the UK?** It could be useful to look at a map.

11. **Tell me how you survived your journey.** Where did you get food to eat and where did you sleep? Who helped you?
12. **How did you keep safe?** What skills did you use? Were there other people that helped keep you safe? Did you have to exchange anything?

13. **Did you experience any of the following places when you were on your journey?** Circle any you have experienced and write about them below.
Section 3: Staying in camps in northern France

14. What was it like in the camp? How did you spend your time?

15. How long did you stay in the camp?
You are in the UK now, but how many times did you try and make it to the UK before you got here? How did you do this?

Can you put a cross on the scale telling us how easy or hard it was to get to the UK? Was there anyone to help and how did you find out who to go to?
Section 3

18. **How did you survive in the camp?** Where did you get food? Where did you sleep in the camp and who slept in the same place as you? Did you have to exchange anything?

19. **Did you have anyone to go to if you needed help?** Were there any adults you trusted in the camp?
Section 4: Arriving in the UK

20. Who was the first person you met in the UK? What did they do and how did they make you feel?

21. Are there things you enjoyed doing in your home country that you are not able to do in the UK? Could someone help you to do these things?
The Home Office is part of the government. People from outside of the UK have to ask the Home Office if they can stay in the UK. What experience have you had with the Home Office? Do you know what is going to happen next?

What do you think the Home Office could do better to help children coming to the UK from other countries?
Section 4

24. Are you able to have contact with any of your family members?

25. Who has been helpful to you in the UK? How have they helped you?

26. How have you found using an interpreter? Have you had one every time you needed one? What could be improved when you use an interpreter?
Section 5: The future

27. If there were three things you could have for your future, what would they be?

1. 

2. 

3. 

28. What could make living in the UK better?
Section 5

29. What advice would you give to another young person who has to leave their home country?

30. If you were to give a message to the politicians, leaders and people in positions of power around the world, what would you like to say?
The NSPCC’s Child Trafficking Advice Centre (CTAC) is a multi-disciplinary specialist service.

It provides free guidance and support to professionals with safeguarding concerns for children being moved across international borders, either to or from the UK.

The service is staffed by experienced social workers, a member of the National Crime Agency, and immigration officers seconded from the Home Office. CTAC provides free training and awareness-raising presentations, attends network and child protection meetings, and produces child trafficking reports for courts.

Contact us

Online: nspcc.org.uk/ctac
Email: ctac@nspcc.org.uk
Phone: 020 3772 9513

Please feel free to get in touch and tell us how you’ve found using this workbook – we would welcome your feedback.