

Lower High School (Early Adolescence) 12-14 years

Developmentally Appropriate	Developmentally Inappropriate	Concerning	Very Concerning	Serious/ Extreme
<p>Marked by increased sexual curiosity to explore their own and others sexual motivations, sexual and gender identity, orientation, and behaviour. Young people are experimenting with others and themselves. Age of consent, and potential criminal consequences of their actions becomes a complicating factor at this age for some children and young people.</p> <p>As in other elements of their life, they seek physical privacy and may begin to masturbate for purposeful sexual pleasure.</p> <p>They often continue to engage in the online world and may seek to explore sexual interest via accessing a variety of pornographic content. Some may also use this content during masturbation for sexual arousal.</p> <p>They will begin to explore intimate relationships with same-age peers of either sex and may have brief or ongoing sexual relationships that routinely include hugging, kissing, and fondling.</p> <p>Using sexually explicit language and exhibitionism with peers. Taking and sharing photos of themselves in various poses (clothed). This may extend to communications of a sexual nature (e.g., sexting). They may begin to push the boundaries with peers and the content shared.</p>	<p>Although precarious depending on the actual age of both young people involved, sexual relationships may progress to include mutual masturbation and oral sex.</p> <p>Engaging in intimate relationships with peers of up to a two-year age gap as their social networks expand.</p> <p>Masturbation that is more frequent or occurs in inappropriate contexts or not in private.</p> <p>Disregard for the privacy of self and others.</p> <p>Regular exploration of pornographic material or exploration of material that is explicit.</p> <p>Preoccupation with sexually explicit language or use of sexual language in inappropriate contexts.</p> <p>Sexting that is prolific or non-reciprocal with peers.</p> <p>Taking and sharing photos of themselves in sexually explicit poses, unclothed and/or exposing genitals.</p> <p>Persuading peers to engage in sexting, share photos of themselves in various poses (clothed, but which may be considered sexually suggestive).</p>	<p>Sexual behaviours with others that includes vaginal or anal sex (with protection).</p> <p>Intimate relationships with individuals more than a two-year age gap.</p> <p>Compulsive masturbation that interferes with other activities, and/or is aggressive, and/or self-injurious, or where the young person feels compelled to do this in public.</p> <p>Use of sexually explicit language to intimidate others regardless of the type of communication.</p> <p>Invading others' privacy as a form of voyeurism.</p> <p>Preoccupation with accessing pornography to the exclusion of other activities (with or without masturbation).</p> <p>Taking and sharing photos of themselves in sexually suggestive poses, unclothed or exposing genitals, which persists after provision of information that this is not appropriate and may be deemed a criminal offence.</p> <p>Coercing or bribing peers to engage in sexting or sharing photos of themselves in various poses (clothed, but which may be considered sexually suggestive).</p>	<p>Engaging in sexual behaviour with others that includes group sex or having multiple sexual partners.</p> <p>Using coercion or bribery to engage others in sexual behaviours of any level.</p> <p>Intimate relationships with individuals who are significantly different in age, and/or where there is a significant power or developmental difference.</p> <p>Regularly masturbating to sexually explicit and deviant pornographic material (e.g., containing animals, violence, degrading behaviours or depicting/ showing children).</p> <p>Taking and/or sharing sexually explicit photos of others without their consent.</p> <p>Coercing or bribing peers to engage in sexting or sharing unclothed photos of themselves in various poses.</p>	<p>Frequently lying about their age for the purpose of engaging significantly older individuals in sexual activity.</p> <p>Forcing other children to engage in sexual behaviour; may include force and include oral sex and penetration with objects.</p> <p>Having unprotected vaginal or anal sex or engaging in sexual behaviour while intoxicated.</p> <p>Preoccupation with masturbating to sexually explicit and deviant pornographic material, particularly where this materials portrays or includes younger children (e.g., child abuse material).</p> <p>Taking and sharing sexually explicit photos of others without permission.</p> <p>Exchanging sexual behaviour/acts for tangible or non-tangible things (e.g., drugs, food, alcohol, money, social inclusion, and so on).</p>