St. Mary’s SARC Young Person’s Advocate
works with CSE clients
Yvonne Howarth, Young Person’s Advocate, St Mary’s SARC
Dr. Rabiya Majeed-Ariss, Research Associate, St Mary’s SARC

SARC CSE cases are:

1) Identified by SARC staff
Who routinely ask questions e.g. in purple form to
indicate CSE/risk of CSE

2) Referred by other agencies
- Police
- Parents
- School staff
- Social worker
- Support worker
- Health professionals e.g. GP, A&E

Good practice referral model
- Proactive and appropriate use of SARC YPA
- Local CSE teams signpost to SARC YPA
- Acting in best interest of child (not being precious)
- Recognise that YPA at St Mary’s SARC offers specialist emotional and practical support regarding impact of assault as well as the criminal justice process

Types of CSE cases seen by SARC YPA include:
- Abuse position of trust
- Peer on peer School based or neighbourhood based
- Perpetrator(s) linked to network of cases
- Gang-related culture Young men linked with organised crime including grooming groups of young teens
  - Hyper violent sex crimes, punish females, initiate males

Yvonne Howarth
Young Person’s Advocate at St Mary’s SARC

- Yvonne has worked with circa 300 people
  who have experienced CSE since Dec 2012
- Yvonne is the only Young Person’s Advocate
  (YPA) in the UK located in a Sexual Assault
  Referral Centre (SARC)
- At St Mary’s SARC Yvonne can provide clients
  integrated support

**5 Point Plan**
Yvonne developed this to improve professional’s knowledge, understanding and confidence

- Persist in keeping in touch a young person may not
  respond to the 1st, 2nd or 3rd call. Show you care
  by not giving up
- Prepare for attitude explore reasons for challenging
  behaviour
- Provide information give young people the facts so
  they can make informed choices
- Prepare to be judged friends, family, society might
  not support a young person to make a report.
  You might be their only friend.
- Promote St Mary’s SARC services everyone who
  has experienced rape or sexual violence can
  access our services