

Three 'extremely vulnerable' schoolgirls 'groomed and sexually exploited' by Huddersfield people, court hears

I have been following events at Crown Court Leeds concerning men and women from Huddersfield. There is a partial reporting restriction different from earlier news reports allowed to the Huddersfield Examiner. This is now a new trial.

From the Huddersfield Examiner on [yesterday](#) (Wednesday)

Jury sworn in Huddersfield child sexual exploitation trial

Nine people are now on trial in relation to the alleged abuse of three schoolgirls

Nine defendants – eight men and one woman, all of whom are from Huddersfield – are now on trial at Leeds Crown Court in relation to the alleged abuse of three young girls. The men face 14 charges including rape and attempted rape, while the woman faces a charge of arranging or facilitating the commission of a child sex offence.

Five of the nine defendants cannot be named for legal reasons.

A 38-year-old man denies attempted rape.

A 30-year-old man denies rape.

A 32-year-old man denies rape.

A 39-year-old woman denies arranging or facilitating the commission of a child sex offence.

Another 32-year-old man denies five counts of rape.

Banaris Hussain, 36, of Beech Street in Paddock, denies rape.

Umar Zaman, 31, of William Street in Crosland Moor, denies two counts of rape. He is being tried in his absence.

Mohammed Arif, 32, of New Hey Road in Oakes, denies rape.

Samuel Fikru, 31, whose address cannot be reported for legal reasons, denies two counts of rape.



Three of the nine defendants. L-R: Banaris Hussain, Umar Zaman, Mohammed Arif.

Opening the trial