

# Kenneth Buckingham cleared by jury at Chelmsford Crown Court of 11 child sex offences

He had been accused of grooming a child

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**Kenneth Buckingham has been found not guilty of child sex offences**

An elderly man from Chelmsford who was accused of committing a string of sex offences against a child has been cleared of all charges.

Kenneth Buckingham, 77, stood trial at Chelmsford Crown Court after being charged with eleven offences; five counts of indecent assault, five counts of sexual activity with a child and one count of rape.

The man who accused Mr Buckingham, who cannot be named for legal reasons, told officers at Colchester CID that the pensioner had groomed him and touched his private parts over his clothing from the age of nine to 11.

He also claimed that on one occasion Mr Buckingham tried to perform penetrative sex on him but he stopped him by kicking him off and hiding.

He claimed that this incident caused him medical discomfort and pain as he got older.

Mr Buckingham, of Chignal Road, was arrested by police on February 13 last year. He denied the charges and was found not guilty by a jury earlier this week.

During the trial, Mr Buckingham's solicitor, Richard Conley, accused the alleged victim of lying and claimed that his lies had snowballed into a false accusation.

Mr Buckingham's wife, Jean, spoke out as the alleged victim was giving evidence in the stand, saying that the claims are ridiculous and a lie.

She was ordered to leave the court by the judge.

<https://www.essexlive.news/news/essex-news/kenneth-buckingham-cleared-jury-chelmsford-455403>