

Conference Agenda



- Welcome, Introductions & Apologies
- Chairperson's Introduction
- Social Worker's Report
- Agency Reports
- Parents & Carers Views & Comments
- Young Person's View
- Summary of Strengths & Concerns
- Discussion and Decision on Need for Child Protection Plan
- Recommendations and Outline Child Protection Plan
- Date of Next Conference

CHILD PROTECTION PLAN

Is the child at continuing risk of significant harm? There are two tests:

- ◆ The child can be shown to have suffered ill-treatment or impairment of health or development as a result of neglect or of physical, emotional or sexual abuse, and professional judgement is that further ill-treatment or impairments are likely **OR**
- ◆ Professional judgement, substantiated by the finding of enquires in this individual case or by research evidence, is the child likely to suffer ill-treatment or the impairment of health or development as a result of neglect or of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse.

If the child is at continuing risk of significant harm, does safeguarding the child require inter-agency help and intervention delivered through a formal Child Protection Plan?

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Physical Abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer feigns the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

SEXUAL ABUSE

Sexual Abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, including prostitution, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including penetrative (e.g. rape, buggery or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts. They may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of sexual online images, watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

NEGLECT

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment, failing to protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger, the failure to ensure access to appropriate care or treatment, the failure to ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers). It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Emotional Abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effect on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person.

It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on the children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitations on exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of ill-treatment of a child, though it may occur alone.