

If you have concerns around any of the areas below, speak to your supervisor

Family & Environmental Factors

Dirty/wet bed, inappropriate sleeping arrangements, cluttered rooms, no space to play, dangerous rubbish or animal excrement in house or garden, basic amenities unavailable e.g. water/electricity

Housing

The family cannot or refuse to access services and resources within the community

Community Resource

Not enough money to buy basic provisions - food, clothing etc.

Income

Inadequate child care arrangements, parent's job has adverse impact on child/yp

Employment

Isolation from local community, neighbour disputes

Family's Social Integration

Domestic violence, substance mis-use, mental health issues, parent's own bad experience of parenting, neglect within wider family, parents fail to recognise concerns or needs of child/yp

Family History and Functioning

Excessive alcohol/smoking/ drug use in house, evidence of substance mis-use, child/yp has contact with family members who are known to present a risk

Wider Family



Norfolk Safeguarding
Children Board

Neglect Identification Tool

This tool has been developed for use in universal services to aid recognition of factors which may indicate a child or young person (YP) is suffering from **NEGLECT**.

These statements are based on the 'Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need, Department of Health 2000'.

Once concerns about neglect are identified, practitioners need to make judgement about the level of intervention.

You should discuss this with your supervisor/manager and evaluate the seriousness of the concerns and decide what the appropriate response should be.

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Child/young person's Developmental Needs

Parent's inappropriate response to needs/distress, child/yp does not look to parent for comfort, seeks comfort from strangers, soiling, wetting, destructive behaviour, running away, aggressive, indiscriminate friendliness, withdrawn, self-harming, significant change in behaviour

Emotional and Behavioural

Poor sense of self-worth/self-esteem/self-awareness, poor social relationships, feelings of not belonging within peer group/family/wider community, lack of self-confidence, lack of own clothes & belongings

Identity

Not walking, or talking, unable to dress or feed him/herself, dis-interest in self-care

Self Care Skills

Unsuitable clothing for age/gender, unkempt, dirty, smelly

Social Presentation

Unusual relationship with parents and other family members, lack of affection from parents/siblings, not encouraged to form friendships, parental lack of pride in the child/yp's achievements

Family & Social Relationships

Limited access to toys/books/learning opportunities, no playing with parents and/or other children, erratic or non school/nursery attendance, late for school, arrives hungry/tired/irritable/inappropriately clothed, educational under-achievement, significant change in educational performance

Education

Over or under-weight, growth and development outside expected range, unmanaged or untreated health conditions/dental care, missed health appointments, frequent accidents or injuries

Health



Parenting Capacity

Lack of food, home dirty/cold, inadequate clothing, poor personal hygiene, child has caring responsibilities

Basic Care

No age appropriate toys/activities, left for long periods in pushchair/highchair/cot/ in front of TV

Stimulation

Inappropriate boundaries & discipline, inconsistent discipline, not knowing right from wrong, issues not addressed, withdrawal of food/drink used as punishment

Guidance & Boundaries

Inadequate supervision, unsuitable carers, hazardous environment, dangerous pets, contact with unsafe adults, drug or alcohol mis-use, allowed to engage in dangerous or delinquent behaviour

Ensuring Safety

Left with many different carers, people they don't know, lack of support through family/ life changes

Stability

Little or no comfort/affection/praise or encouragement, unrealistic expectations, parents are aggressive/violent towards each other and/or others

Emotional Warmth



Where a child/young person has a disability the additional factors below may be indicators of neglect:

- Not getting enough help with feeding
- Poor toileting arrangements
- Lack of stimulation
- Unjustified and/or excessive use of restraint
- Rough handling, extreme behaviour modification e.g. deprivation of liquid, medication, food or clothing
- Unwillingness to try to learn a child's means of communication
- Ill-fitting equipment e.g. calipers, sleep boards, inappropriate splinting