

County Durham Children & Families Practice Toolkit



Practice toolkit

Aim of the Practice Toolkit

This toolkit should be used in conjunction with the [County Durham Family Outcome Framework](#).

The aim of this toolkit is to provide practitioners with practice guidance on a range of significant issues which are known to have a negative impact on a child's wellbeing and life chances and ensures:

- children, young people and families receive consistent high quality help and support;
- a strength based solution focused approach in our team work with families;
- an open, honest and transparent approach to supporting children and their families;
- direct help and support is offered to children and parents/carers;
- both children and adults needs are addressed, using a 'think family' approach to assessment and intervention;
- where appropriate will require a collaborative 'Team around the Family' using a single multi-agency family plan;
- a broad view of protection is taken acknowledging the broad determinates of health and well-being are addressed;
- the use of evidence based best practice;
- child focused practice;
- improved outcomes for children and young people.

Implementation of Practice Toolkit

Practitioners will be expected to make reference to and implement the guidance within this toolkit.

Children Services Case File auditing process will be used to monitor the effective implementation of the guidance.

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There are a range of information sources and tools which can support you as a practitioner with your work with families that are suitable for all Headline Outcomes. These are as follows:

General Information Sources and Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p><u>Procedures Manual – TRI-X,</u> DCC staff <u>Durham Children’s Services</u></p>	<p><u>Procedures Manual TRI-X,</u> non DCC staff <u>Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership</u></p>	<p><u>Community Care - Inform Children</u> (DCC Staff)</p>	<p><u>Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Alliance</u></p>	<p><u>Durham Insight Intelligence, Research and Knowledge Base for County Durham</u></p>	<p><u>Neglect Practice Guidance</u></p>
<p><u>County Durham Families Information Service</u></p>					

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p><u>Toolkit and Guidance for Practitioners</u> Durham Safeguarding Children's Partnership</p>	<p><u>Single Assessment Framework</u></p>	<p><u>Parenting and Empowerment Programmes</u> Can be accessed through your Local Family Centre</p>	<p><u>National Youth Advocacy Service</u></p>	<p><u>Language That Cares.pdf</u></p>	<p><u>Social Worker Toolbox</u></p>
<p><u>My Story</u> (for Children and Young People)</p>	<p><u>Three Houses</u></p>	<p><u>Adolescent Three Houses</u></p>	<p>Safety Planning Tips.pdf (Awaiting link)</p>	<p><u>Tea and Consent – Online Video</u></p>	<p>Resilience/ Vulnerability Matrix.pdf (Awaiting link)</p>

Also see the [Early Help and Think Family Training Calendar](#)

Crime Prevention and Tackling Crime

Including Anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour is behaviour that worries, upsets or frightens people. It can make people scared to go out or feel unsafe in their own home. This can include people making too much noise, calling people names or picking on them because they may be different in some way. It can also mean leaving rubbish or animal mess lying around, abandoned cars and other vehicles such as bikes and painting graffiti on walls. Groups of people hanging around the streets or parks and playgrounds, together with drinking and drug taking can cause other people worries and frighten them. Helping children, young people and adults to understand how their behaviour can make the other people in the household and community scared for their safety and well-being is important. We would like to see families changing their behaviours so that it doesn't frighten or upset other people in the community.

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Anti-Bullying Alliance</u>	<u>Crime, Justice and the Law</u>	<u>Durham Neighbourhood Police Team</u>	<u>NEPACS</u>	<u>Durham Insight – Crime and Community Safety</u>	<u>PACE Police and Criminal Evidence Act</u>
<u>Fearless</u> (non-judgemental advice about crimes that affect children and young people)	<u>ASB Community Safety - Resolve</u>	<u>County Durham Youth Justice Service</u>	<u>National Probation Service</u>	<u>Durham and Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)</u>	<u>ASB Help</u>

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Anti-Bullying Alliance - Tools</u>	Resilience/ Vulnerability Matrix (Awaiting link)				
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Getting a Good Education

Including good attendance and engagement in education

To get a good education, parents and carers must, by law, make sure that their child goes to school or has other types of education such as Elective Home Education (Home Schooling) or a Training Provider. This will help them get a good start in life and give them the chance to learn new skills and get the qualifications they need to give them the best chance of getting a job when they leave school.

We know that children who go to school regularly or who get the best chance to learn through Elective Home Education are less likely to get into trouble with the police or be taken advantage of by others when they are out in the community.

For all these reasons, we want to see children going to school so that they can learn and grow as people, make friends, fit in with where they live, connect with their community and understand the world around them.

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Nursery and pre-school education Durham County Council</u>	<u>School Attendance Durham County Council</u>	<u>Durham Works Programme for Schools</u>	<u>Fact Sheet Penalty Notices to address poor attendance at school</u>	<u>County Durham's Families Information Service</u>	<u>Durham Enable</u>
<u>DfE School Attendance Guidance</u>	<u>Elective Home Education Guide for Parents and Carers</u>	<u>Children Missing Education Statutory Guidance.pdf</u>	<u>ICAN for speech and language</u>	<u>Department for Education GOV.UK</u>	<u>Ofsted GOV.UK</u>

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Durham Insight Children & Young People</u>	<u>Durham Insight SEND</u>	<u>Parents' Guide to Support School Refusal</u>	<u>Durham Works for 16 - 24 year olds not in Education, Employment or Training</u>	<u>Anti-Bullying Alliance</u>	
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Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Anti-Bullying Alliance - Tools</u>	School Attendance Toolkit (Awaiting link)	<u>What to Expect When (0-5 years).pdf</u>	<u>Supporting Inclusion in Durham – Guidance for School and Service leads</u>		
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Improving Children’s Life Chances

Secure housing, financial stability and employment

All children and young people need to have food, shelter, warmth and clothing. They also need to feel loved, safe and secure so that they can grow up happy and healthy. Children need help to make good choices in life but sometimes that does not happen, so everyone needs to work as a team, making sure everyone has a clear job to do to try and make things better by supporting each family member. Working together with partners will mean less duplication for the family.

Parents and carers understand what their children need better than anyone. Supporting them by sharing goals helps them to get better outcomes for all, however sometimes, when parents argue and disagree, it gets in the way of children getting what they need like love and security. Children often can’t understand why their parents argue. We would like to see family members finding better ways of managing their disagreements that doesn’t include violence and aggression.

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Durham Relate</u>	<u>Advice in County Durham - Relationships</u>	<u>Growing Healthy County Durham 0-19 service Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust</u>	<u>Barnardo's</u>	<u>NSPCC Adult Help advice line</u>	<u>Parents Against Child Exploitation (Pace) UK</u>
<u>Housing Solutions</u>	Youth Practitioners.pdf (Awaiting link)	<u>Alcohol & Drug Awareness - Wellbeing for Life</u>	HENRY (Health, Exercise & Nutrition for the Really Young).pdf (Awaiting link)	<u>Healthy Start</u>	

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Relationships Matter – Information for Practitioners</u>	<u>Think U Know – How to keep Children Safe Online</u>	<u>Young Carers</u>	<u>CEOP Command to Report Concerns about Grooming and Sexual Abuse</u>	<u>Harmful Sexual Behaviour</u>	<u>Contextualised Safeguarding</u>
<u>Bereavement Counselling</u>	<u>Making Mental Health Everybody's Business.pdf</u>	<u>Butterwick Hospice</u>	<u>St. Cuthbert's Hospice</u>	<u>Rollercoaster Parent/Carer Peer Support Group</u>	<u>Young Parent Programme</u>
<u>Early Years Education and Quality Child Care</u>	<u>County Lines.pdf</u>	<u>County Durham Safeguarding Adults</u>	<u>Emotional & Wellbeing Support for CYP and Families in County Durham.pdf</u>	<u>Emotional & Wellbeing Support for Adults in County Durham.pdf</u>	

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p><u>The Family Pack of Questionnaires and Scales</u></p>	<p><u>Relationships Matter Referral Stage Questionnaires</u></p>	<p><u>CSE Matrix</u></p>	<p><u>Bridge Young Carers</u></p>	<p><u>Kooth</u></p>	<p><u>Sarah's Law</u></p>
<p><u>Home Environment Assessment Tool</u></p>	<p><u>Social Worker Toolbox</u></p>	<p><u>Questions to support with finding networks</u></p>	<p><u>THRIVE Framework (Graduation model for MH/EWB)</u></p>	<p>CSE Intelligence Form (Awaiting link)</p>	<p><u>Essential Guide for New Dads, Dads Pad</u></p>

Improving Living Standards

Secure housing, financial stability and employment

Many families find it difficult to get jobs. There are many reasons, including transport, childcare, lack of skills or experience, disability, age and others.

Not working, struggling with money and living in poverty affect all aspects of people's lives and can add to poorer health, depression, low mood and feeling anxious. Living in poverty is stressful and often linked to poorer mental health and adds to difficulties in relationships within the family.

Because people have less money coming in, they may find it difficult to build up savings to help cover unexpected expenses. That means they are more likely to get into dept and fall behind with paying bills.

We would like to see families finding ways to manage their money in a way that makes sure they can feed their children and pay their bills so that all children and families have somewhere safe and secure to live.

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Contact Jobcentre Plus - GOV.UK</u>	<u>Durham Works – Not in Education, Employment or Training Information</u>	<u>Housing and Homelessness</u>	<u>NE First Credit Union</u>	<u>Citizens Advice</u>	<u>Welfare Rights Service</u>
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Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>National Trading Standards – Friends Against Scams</u>	Think Family Employment Advisors Contact Details (Awaiting link)	<u>Foodbanks in County Durham</u>	<u>Adult Learning and Job Training</u>	<u>Fighting UK Poverty - Turn2us</u>	<u>Furniture Schemes</u>
<u>Family Centre Activities and Resources to alleviate Poverty</u>	<u>Managing Money Better Service (Energy Advice)</u>	<u>Stop Loan Sharks</u>			

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Budget Planning Tool</u>	<u>Turn 2 Us - Benefits Calculator and Grant Finder</u>	<u>Young Friends</u>	<u>Help with your Money</u> <u>Support with Debt Grants for Families/ Benefits Advice</u> <u>Money Management and Savings</u>	<u>Help with buying items for school</u>	
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Staying Safe in Relationships

Safe from domestic abuse

Abuse between people living in a family is complicated. Quite often it is not talked about and no one knows or recognises that it is happening, not even the people who are affected. Domestic abuse happens between anyone over the age of 16 who is or who has ever been in an intimate relationship, between older children and their parents, wider extended family in elder or honour based violence.

Domestic abuse involves many different acts and behaviours. These include physical violence, manipulation, isolation, control, and use of threats and humiliation which harm, frighten or punish a victim.

Children who are affected by domestic abuse can have poor health like tummy aches and headaches, and poor mental health when they struggle with their difficult feelings like anger and sadness. Children who live with domestic abuse can also struggle to concentrate at school and can have behavioural issues, poor engagement with education and behavioural issues.

Children and young people who are exposed to domestic abuse have different needs to those of adults. They tend to have greater support needs, are less likely to understand the severity of abuse and have less understanding of what a healthy relationship looks like.

We want to see children living in homes where they feel safe and where the adults can sort out their problems without hurting each other or making the other person really unhappy, sad or frightened.

Support for Adult Victims - Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Government Definition of Domestic Abuse</u>	<u>Durham County Council Refuge Information</u>	<u>Harbour Support Services</u>	<u>What is Domestic Abuse?</u>	<u>SafeLives Domestic Abuse Information</u>	<u>Getting it Right First Time.pdf</u>
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Support for Adult Victims - Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Claire's Law – The Domestic Abuse Offender Disclosure Scheme.pdf</u>	<u>County Durham Multi- Agency Domestic Violence and Abuse Referral Pathway</u>	<u>What is Financial Abuse?</u>	<u>Protecting against Financial Abuse</u>	<u>RESPECT</u>	<u>LGBT+ Anti Violence Charity Galop</u>
<u>Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance</u>	<u>Domestic Violence and Abuse: Help from the DWP</u>	<u>Honour Based Violence</u>	<u>County Durham Housing Solutions – Support to remain at Home</u>	<u>Woman's Aid - Supporting Women, Children & Families with Domestic Abuse</u>	<u>Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre (RSACC)</u>
Making Mental Health Everybody's Business.pdf (Awaiting link)	Working remotely with victims during Covid 19.pdf (Awaiting link)	<u>The Duluth Model</u>	<u>Domestic Abuse Bill</u>	<u>Freedom Project Help & Support Dogs Trust</u>	

Support for Adult Victims – Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

MARAC Referral Form and DASH Risk Assessment (Awaiting link)	<u>The Expect respect Healthy Relationships Toolkit.pdf</u>	<u>Budget Planner</u>	<u>The Social Work Toolbox for Domestic Abuse: Parents</u>	<u>LGBTQ+ Helplines and Support Humankind</u>	<u>Protecting Against Financial Abuse: Money Advice Service</u>
<u>Support for Male Survivors</u>	<u>The Severity of Abuse Grid</u>	<u>Coercive Controlling Behaviour</u>	<u>DASH Risk Assessment</u>	Signs of Safety Harm Matrix (Awaiting link)	Harm Matrix (with prompts).pdf (Awaiting link)
<u>Cumulative Harm</u>	<u>Safe Lives – Ending Domestic Abuse</u>	<u>Recognising and Responding to Domestic Violence and Abuse.pdf</u>			

Support for Children and Young People affected by Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse affects the whole family, this includes children and/or young people. Listed below are a range of information sources and practical tools that may support your work with children and/or young people.

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Information Sources</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)</p>					
<u>Durham County Council Support for Children and Young People</u>	<u>Harbour Support Service – Prevention Service</u>	<u>Operation Encompass</u>	<u>SafeLives – Effective Help for Children Living with Domestic Abuse.pdf</u>	<u>Young People and Domestic Abuse</u>	<u>Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children and Young People</u>
<u>Trauma Informed Response to Working with Young People Affected by Domestic Abuse</u>	<u>Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA).pdf</u>				

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Young Person's DASH Risk Assessment with Guidance.pdf</u>	<u>Resources for Professionals working with Young People</u>	<u>Let Children know your Listening</u>	<u>The Hideout – Resource for Young People</u>	<u>The Social Work Toolbox for Domestic Abuse</u>	<u>Safety House Booklet.pdf</u>
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Families affected

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>LGBT & Durham Pride</u>	<u>LGBT & Support for Children and Young People</u>	<u>Domestic Abuse Support for Deaf People</u>	<u>Domestic Abuse Support for GRT Community</u>	<u>Complex Needs and Domestic Abuse Navigator Service</u>	<u>Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre</u>
<u>Finding Legal Options for Women Survivors (FLOWS)</u>	<u>Tech Abuse</u>	<u>Support for older victims</u>			

Support for Abusers

In order to appropriately support families, we must also consider the needs of those adults that display abusive behaviours. It is recognised that many abusers will have multiple victims and the impact of their behaviour can cause significant trauma particularly on children and young people who are affected. Listed below are a range of information sources and practical tools that may support your work.

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Harbour Support Services – Prevention Service</u>	<u>RESPECT</u>	<u>Steps Towards Change.pdf</u>	<u>RESPECT How will you know that a service user is perpetrating domestic abuse?.pdf</u>		
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Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>RESPECT Helpline</u>	<u>RESPECT - Take a Time Out!.pdf</u>	<u>Engage – Roadmap for interacting with perpetrators.pdf</u>	<u>Friends and Family</u>		
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Living Well

Improved mental and physical health, promoting recovery and reducing harm from substance misuse

It is important that parents look after their children’s health and show them affection and warmth. Making sure children feel secure and loved can help them to deal better with difficult things that can happen. When parents are not healthy themselves, it may be more difficult to make sure their children get all they need. Parents and carers who take drugs or drink too much alcohol can find it more difficult to see what their children need. It is hard in these situations to ask for help.

Resources for Professionals

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Durham Children's Services Procedures Manual</u>	<u>Making Mental Health Everybody's Business.pdf</u>	<u>Emotional Wellbeing Effective Learning Team</u>	<u>Make Every Contact Count</u>	<u>Managing Self Harm – A guide for Schools</u>	<u>Emotionally Based School Avoidance- West Sussex Toolkit</u>
<u>CEREBRA- Sleep Advice Service</u>	<u>Traumatic Bereavement- A guide for schools</u>	<u>Critical Incident Guidance for Durham Education Settings</u>	<u>School Based Critical Incident Support – A guide for professionals</u>		

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Family Pack of Questionnaires and Scales</u>	<u>The Child Development Checklist.pdf</u>	<u>Bruising of non-mobile Children.pdf</u>	<u>Alcohol Screening Tool.pdf</u>	<u>Safety Planning: Drugs & Alcohol.pdf</u>	<u>Sexual Health Services (CDDFT)</u>
<u>Self-Harm and Suicidal Behaviour: Practitioner Guidance</u>	<u>Mental Health & Emotional Support: CYP Key Contacts.pdf</u>	<u>Mental Health & Emotional Support: Adults Key Contacts.pdf</u>	<u>Safety Planning: Mental Health.pdf</u>	<u>Recovery College Online</u>	<u>Anna Freud</u>
<u>MindEd E-learning Modules</u>	<u>Drink Coach AAP</u>	<u>Prevention of Abusive Head Trauma and Icon</u>	Emotional Health and Resilience Teams (Harrogate District Foundation Trust) (Awaiting link)	Emotional Health and Resilience Referral Form (Awaiting link)	<u>Durham Health and Wellbeing Framework- Developing a Whole School Framework</u>

Resources for Parents and Carers

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p><u>Growing Healthy in County Durham</u></p>	<p><u>Wellbeing for Life</u></p>	<p><u>Humankind: Drug and Alcohol Services</u></p>	<p><u>Rollercoaster: Parent/Carer Peer Support Group</u></p>	<p>Parent Information: Mental health Problems in Young People.pdf (Awaiting link)</p>	<p>Parent Information: Coping with Self Harm.pdf (Awaiting link)</p>
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Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p><u>Support after Suicide: If U Care Share</u></p>	<p><u>Durham Crees</u></p>	<p><u>MindEd For Families</u></p>	<p><u>Recovery College Online</u></p>	<p><u>Anna Freud: Podcasts for Parents</u></p>	<p><u>Heads Together</u></p>
<p><u>Every Mind Matters</u></p>	<p><u>Crisis Advice</u></p>	<p><u>Headspace</u></p>			

Resources for Children and Young People

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p>DSCP Info for teenagers (Awaiting link)</p>	<p>Mental Health & Emotional Support: Key Contacts.pdf (Awaiting link)</p>	<p><u>Humankind: LGBT+ Support</u></p>	<p><u>Young Minds</u></p>	<p><u>Young Minds: Inpatients</u></p>	<p><u>Rise Above: Teenage Health</u></p>
<p><u>Active 30</u></p>	<p><u>Mermaids- Transgender Support</u></p>				

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Kooth</u>	<u>Recovery College Online</u>	<u>Anna Freud: Support for Young People</u>	<u>Heads Together</u>	<u>Shout Crisis Text Service</u>	<u>The Mix</u>
<u>Crisis Advice</u>	<u>National Self Harm Network</u>	<u>Talk to Frank</u>			

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Parents and children with a range of health issues

Around 14.5% of children and young people in County Durham are recognised as having a Special Educational Need and/or Disability (SEND). A child’s or young person’s SEND can make it harder to learn, and in some instances communicate their thoughts and feelings. To support children and young people with SEND care needs to be taken to understand their individual needs. Once understood the support that they receive from their family, friends, services and schools will have the most impact, this may require some extra or different help from that given to others of a similar age. Support may be required for a short period of time or sometimes for the whole of their school life and beyond.

If SEND goes unidentified or unmet, at times, children and young people cannot develop with their peers and may become withdrawn or challenging. With the right support evidence proves that children and young people can function well and make progress in many or all aspects of their life.

We would like children and young people with SEND and their parents/carers to feel confident in the support they receive at home, at school and in their community so that children can grow up to be happy and to be the best that they can be and for parents to feel that they can cope and have networks of support that they can rely on.

Resources for Professionals

Information Sources

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>What Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Means</u>	Durham Insight SEND (Awaiting link)	<u>SEND Code of Practice</u>	<u>Supporting SEND - templates and reference forms</u>	<u>EHC Assessment and Plans</u>	<u>County Durham’s Local Offer</u>
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Resources for Professionals					
<u>Respite Care and Short Breaks</u>	<u>SEND Money and Benefits</u>	<u>SENDIASS Information Advice and Support</u>	<u>SEND and Inclusion Course Directory</u>	<u>Think Autism in County Durham Strategy</u>	<u>SEND Support and Services for Schools and Settings</u>
<u>Health Services for Children and Young People with SEND</u>	<u>Durham's Virtual School</u>	<u>Pupil Premium Advice for Schools</u>	Signs of Safety Example Questions.pdf (Awaiting link)		

Tools for Professionals					
(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)					
<u>SEND Toolkit</u>	<u>SEND Toolkit Useful Resources</u>	<u>Supporting SEND as part of the Graduated Approach</u>	<u>SEND Toolkit How to Guides (Education)</u>	<u>The Communication Trust and Consortium</u>	<u>Elklan- training to support children's language and learning</u>

Tools for Professionals

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p><u>Selective Mutism Information & Research Association</u></p>	<p><u>Autism Education Trust</u></p>	<p><u>Triple A in the Classroom</u> Durham University online learning resource for teachers, teaching assistants, SENCOs and school leaders for supporting autistic and neurodivergent pupils</p>	<p><u>Signs of Safety Example Questions</u></p>		
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Resources for Parents and Carers

Information Sources and Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<p><u>SEND Toolkit: A Guide for Parents and Carers</u></p>	<p><u>Parent Support Roller Coaster Support Group</u></p>	<p><u>Applying for and EHCP: A Guide for Families</u></p>	<p><u>Local Support Groups for Parents</u></p>		
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Neglect Practice Guidance

Helping families address neglect

The majority of children and young people in County Durham will grow up and reach their potential in a supportive environment. However, some children, young people and their families face difficulties and problems. Additional help and support needs to be available at the earliest opportunity to stop these challenges from escalating and negatively impacting on their future.

Evidence shows that the major issue facing children who need a Child Protection Plan is neglect. By the time the situation has deteriorated to the point that protection is required, children have often lived several years of their lives in these circumstances.

It is known that practitioners often find it difficult to identify and respond to indicators of neglect or appreciate their severity. This practice toolkit aims to assist practitioners across services to identify early signs of neglect and develop more responsive and timely interventions to address concerns about neglect. The practice toolkit seeks to ensure that practitioners focus their attention on:

- patterns of parental behaviour,
- the impact this behaviour may be having on the child's physical, emotional, psychological and behavioural development and well-being,
- the impact on the child's attachment behaviours,
- the specificity of the child's day to day lived experience over time.

The reason for this refocus on the impact on the child's well-being as a consequence of the parent(s) behaviour is that too often attention by professionals is focussed on the parent(s) unmet needs to the exclusion of understanding the potential or actual impact on the child. Often interventions to address concerns about neglect is compromised by professional concerns about the meeting (or otherwise) of certain thresholds. In Durham we have sought to address this by implementing the 'Durham Threshold' so that professionals can be guided to the most appropriate level of intervention at the earliest opportunity.

Whilst thresholds are important – especially in respect of the application of the Child Protection Procedures or the decision to instigate care proceedings, the guiding principles for all professionals when considering intervention in cases of neglect is:

- What does this child need?
- What does this child need me to think about?
- What does this child need me to do?

The way in which we work with families has a direct impact on the outcomes that they achieve. Our overarching aim is to build positive relationships with children and families which are built on mutual respect, are trauma informed and restorative in nature. Our chosen Practice Framework in Durham is Signs of Safety/Wellbeing and this approach will be applied to all our work with children and families where neglect is of concern. DSCP partners are rolling out the use of the Graded Care Profile 2 to help practitioners identify and support families to address the negative impact of neglect on children. Also see DSCP section on GCP2 . All practitioners must be trained to use the tool and access to training can be found on DSCP website.

Scope: This toolkit is for all professionals who work with children and young people and adults who are parents/carers.

Resources for Professionals

Information Sources and Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>What is neglect and how do we recognise it?</u>	<u>Recognition of Prenatal Neglect</u>	<u>Causes of Neglect</u>	<u>Impact of Neglect</u>	<u>Impact of Neglect on Adolescents</u>	<u>Legislation and Standards</u>
<u>Assessment of Neglect</u>	<u>Dental Neglect</u>	<u>Level of Need</u>	<u>Responding to Neglect</u>	<u>A model of concurrent interventions for addressing Child Neglect</u>	<u>Disguised Compliance</u>

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Graded Care Profile</u>	<u>Gingerbread Activity</u>	<u>Helpful Resources for Trauma Informed Approach</u>	<u>The Needs of the Traumatized Child Pyramid</u>	<u>Shield Against Shame</u>	DSCP tools to work with children, young people and families
<u>A Day in the Life of the Child</u>	Adolescent Wellbeing Scale (Awaiting link)	Words and Pictures (Awaiting link)	<u>Three Houses</u>	<u>Adolescent Three Houses</u>	<u>Queen or King of the Island</u>
<u>Queen or King of the Island Exercise</u>	<u>Harm Matrix</u>	<u>The Iceberg Activity</u>	<u>The Family Pack of Questionnaires and Scales</u>	<u>Attachment and Bonding Checklist</u>	<u>Audit Screening Tool for Alcohol Related Risk</u>

Tools

(the following information will open external links or a new PDF)

<u>Cycle of Change</u>	<u>Blank Ecomap</u>	<u>Child Development Checklist</u>	<u>Home Environment Assessment Tool</u>		
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