

Full CASE FILE AUDIT TOOLKIT (CIN & CP)

Case File Grading (Ofsted Key Judgements)

Outstanding

In addition to meeting the requirements of a 'good' judgement, there is evidence that professional practice exceeds the standard of good and results in sustained improvement to the lives of children, young people and families. Research-informed practice, some of which will be innovative, continues to develop from a strong and confident base, making an exceptional difference to the lives and experiences of children and young people.

Good - (Use Detailed Audit Guide as the benchmark for what good looks like)

Children and young people who are, or who are likely to be, at risk of harm or who are the subject of concern are identified and protected. Help is provided early in the emergence of a problem and is well coordinated and recorded through multi-agency arrangements. Records of action and decisions are clear and up to date. Children and young people are listened to and heard. Social workers build effective relationships with them and their families in order to assess the likelihood of, and capacity for, change. Risk is well understood, managed and regularly reviewed. Children and young people experience timely and effective multi-agency help and protection through risk-based assessment, authoritative practice, planning and review that secures change.

Requires Improvement

Not meeting all good grades, but there are no widespread or serious failures that create or leave children being harmed or at risk of harm. Assessments should be timely with risk and protective factors identified and action taken to safeguard children. Risk and protective factors are identified. Conclusions flow from analysis and findings in relation to significant harm are clear. All statutory case file requirements are met. However, the case file is not yet at a Good standard and does not provide sufficient assurance that we are delivering good protection, help and care for children, young people and families.

Inadequate

The file does not demonstrate a suitable level of assurance. There are, or appear to be, widespread failures or serious failures that leave children harmed or at risk of harm. Response to referrals is not timely or effective, Section 47 investigations insufficiently planned, poor quality assessments, insufficient involvement of family and children and poor managerial oversight. Case file is not able to evidence compliance with statutory requirements.

Notes for Auditor

All comments boxes must be completed – there must be sufficient information to evidence the grades and inform improved practice or comment on good practice. If there are immediate concerns the manager must be notified. **The child must always be at the centre of the audit. What is the child's journey? Does the child have a voice?**