Argyll & Bute Assessment & Care Toolkit



#### **Background information**

- 1: Introduction and toolkit summary
- 2: Responding to the needs of children



#### Section 1a:

# Introduction and toolkit

In order to assess a parent's capacity to meet their child's needs, it is important in cases where neglect is suspected to examine and gain an understanding of both the current circumstance and the parents' early experience. This should form the basis for any assessment undertaken. This toolkit is for practitioners to use with parents/carers.

We would like to acknowledge that the Action for Children toolkit has been adapted from the work of Dr O P Srivastava, Consultant Community Paediatrician, and Luton Child Development Centre who developed the original Graded Care Profile.

Glasgow child protection committee adopted the use of the Graded Care Profile in 2008. Glasgow social work and action for children worked together to adapt the Graded Care Profile in 2015. This current guidance is a further update to support the assessment of neglect. Glasgow HSCP endorse the use of this tool as the main risk assessment guidance when working with neglect. This toolkit consists of guidance, assessment tools and recording documents to support practitioners to:

- Identify children whose developmental needs are being insufficiently met at an early stage, placing them at risk of achieving poor educational, emotional and social outcomes.
- Focus on the main areas of concern when things can seem overwhelming and chaotic.
- Encourage parents to look at their parenting using pictures and descriptions that help discussion and provide an opportunity for working together to agree required actions.
- Feel more confident in making judgments and decisions that they can share with other agencies.
- Deliver better outcomes for vulnerable children and their families.
- Develop an improved service response that can be rolled out across the setting.
- Improve co-working relationships between social work services, health, education and other agencies.

#### Section 1b:

### What we know

Neglect is the most prevalent form of child maltreatment in the UK. We know that

Intervening in neglect is likely to be costly, requiring intensive, long-term, multi-faceted work by a highly skilled workforce.

Neglect can have a devastating impact on all aspects of child development, and this impact can last throughout a child's life. It differs from other forms of abuse because it is frequently passive, it is more likely to be a chronic condition than crisis led and often overlaps with other forms of maltreatment. There is a repeated need for intervention with families requiring long-term support. The indicators are often missed with no early intervention and a lack of clarity between professionals on the agreed intervention threshold.

#### 1. Definition

Scottish Government Child Protection Procedures (2014) defines neglect as "the failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the 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).
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger.
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of adequate care-givers).
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.
- It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

The following definition is also helpful:

"neglect occurs when the basic needs of children are not met, regardless of cause"

Managing neglect is complex and multi-faceted and cannot be easily defined. Neglect differs from other forms of abuse because it is:

- Frequently passive.
- The intent to harm is not always present.
- It is more likely to be a chronic condition rather than crisis led and therefore impacts on how we respond as agencies.
- Often overlaps with other forms of maltreatment.
- Is often a revolving door where families require long-term support.
- Lacks clarification between professionals on the agreed threshold for intervention.

Therefore the way in which we define neglect can determine how we respond to it.

Neglect may also result in the child being diagnosed as suffering from "non-organic failure to thrive", where they have significantly failed to reach normal weight and growth or development milestones and where physical and genetic reasons have been medically eliminated.

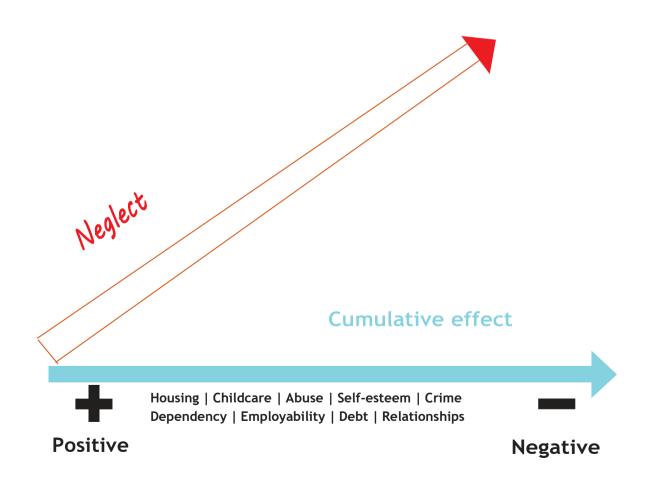
In its extreme form children can be at serious risk from the effects of malnutrition, lack of nurturing and stimulation. This can lead to serious long-term effects such as greater susceptibility to serious childhood illnesses and reduction in potential stature.

With young children in particular, the consequences may be life-threatening within a relatively short period of time (Scottish Government, 2014 p.37)

#### 2. Factors that contribute to neglect

- Family violence, modelling of Inappropriate behaviour.
- Multiple co-habitation and change of partner.
- Alcohol and substance abuse.
- Maternal low self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Poor parental level of education and cognitive ability.
- Parental personality characteristics inhibiting good parenting.
- Social and emotional immaturity.
- Poor experience of caring behaviour in parents' own childhood.

- Depriving physical and emotional environment in parents' own childhood.
- Experience of physical, sexual, emotional abuse in parents' own childhood.
- Health problems during pregnancy.
- Pre-term or low birth weight baby.
- Low family income.
- Low employment status.
- Single parenting.
- Teenage pregnancy.



#### 3. Management

Effective interventions to achieve the best outcome for the child must be based upon clear assessment processes. Neglectful parental behaviour is least understood, but a growing body of research suggests that defining the causation of neglect in individual families can help to determine the most effective management response. Each intervention must be targeted and tailored to meet the individual and unique needs of every family.

Research¹ suggests neglect can be described in three ways. The following guidance may help to facilitate the planning and management of neglect cases to provide the most effective professional response.

- I. Disorganised neglect.
- II. Emotional neglect.
- III. Depressed neglect.

#### i. Disorganised neglect

#### **Description:**

- Families have multi-problems and are crisis-ridden.
- Care is unpredictable and inconsistent, there is a lack of planning, needs have to be immediately met.
- Mother/parent appears to need/want help and professionals are welcomed, but efforts by professionals are often sabotaged.

#### Consequence or impact:

- Children become overly demanding to gain attention.
- Families constantly recreate crisis, because feelings dominate behaviour.
- Parents feel threatened by attempts to put structures and boundaries into family life.
- Interpersonal relationships are based on the use of coercive strategies to meet need.

#### Case management:

- These families respond least to attempts by professionals to create order and safety in the family.
- Feelings must be attended to develop trust, express empathy and reassurance, be predictable and provide structure in the relationship.
- Mirror the feelings.
- Gradually introduce alternative strategies to build coping skills.
- Support will be long-term.

#### ii. Emotional neglect

#### **Description:**

- Opposite of disorganised families, where focus is on predictable outcomes.
- Family may be materially advantaged and physical needs may be met but no emotional connection made.
- Children have more rules to respond to and know their role within the family.
- Parental responses lack empathy and are not psychologically available to the child.
- Parental approval/attention achieved through performance.

#### Consequence or impact:

- Children learn to block expression or awareness of feelings.
- They often do well at school and can appear overly resilient, competent/mature.
- They take on the role of care giver to the parent which permits some closeness that is safer for the parent.
- Children may appear falsely bright, self-reliant, but have poor social relationships due to isolation.
- The parent may have inappropriate expectations in relation to the child's age/development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> Child Neglect: Causes and Contributors by P McKinsey Crittenden in H Dubowitz, Neglected Children: Research, Practice and Policy - Sage Publications 1999, p47 - 68.

#### Case management:

- As families appear superficially successful there is likely to be less professional involvement.
- Parents will feel particularly threatened by any proposed intervention. The impact of separating the child from an emotionally neglectful parent can be particularly devastating for the child when they have taken on a parental role.
- Parents need to learn how to express feelings, for example practice smiling, laughing, soothing, to emotionally engage with the child.
- Children will benefit from opportunities that are socially inclusive and open them up to other emotionally positive experiences.
- Help parents to access other sources of support/activities to reduce the impact of their withdrawn state.
- Goal is to move families towards the less withdrawn version of emotional neglect.

#### iii. Depressed neglect

#### **Description:**

- Parents love their children but do not perceive their needs or believe anything will change.
- Parent is passive and helpless.
- Uninterested in professional support and is unmotivated to make change.
- Parental presentation is generally dull/withdrawn.

#### Consequences or impact:

- Parents have closed down to awareness and understanding of children's needs.
- Parents may go through the basic functions of caring such as feeding, changing, but there is a lack of response to a child's signals.
- Child is likely to either give up when persistently given no response and become withdrawn/sullen or behaviour may become extreme.

#### Case management:

- Children benefit from access to stimulation, responsive alternative environments, for example day care.
- Parents are unlikely to respond to strategies which use a threatening/punitive approach that requires parents to learn new skills.
- Medication may be helpful but beware side effects.
- Emphasise strengths.
- Parental education needs to be incremental and skills practised and reinforced over time to overcome parents' belief that change is not possible.
- Support will most likely need to be longterm and supportive in nature.

Whilst categorisation can aid planning and management it can also be deceptive as situations vary and will require tailored support.

#### 4. Roles andresponsibilities

All agencies, whether in the statutory or voluntary sector, have a duty:

- To share information about children who are suspected to be at risk of harm from neglect.
- To make a contribution to the assessment process where appropriate.
- To take the lead responsibility for co-ordinating an assessment and multi-agency meetings.

The assessment tool provides a benchmark for determining what change, if any, occurs over time. It will assist in clarifying when conversations should take place between partner agencies and when additional services are required, including social care services. It enables parents to recognise the needs of their child and supports practitioners to keep the focus on the child.

#### Section two:

Responding to theneeds

2a: Assessment tool practice guidance

2b: Assessment tool record sheet

2c: Assessment toolscore sheet and action plan



HOW

**ACTION FOR CHILDREN** 



#### Section 1a:

# Introduction and toolkit summary

The aim of this guidance is to establish a common standard of care that is given to children by parents or carers.

This tool gives an objective measure of the care of a child by a carer. The tool provides a qualitative grading for actual care delivered to a child taking account of commitment and effort shown by the carer.

Personal attributes of the carer, social environment or attributes of the child are not accounted for unless actual care is observed to be affected by them. Thus, if a child is provided with adequate food, appropriate clothes and a safe house, the Assessment Tool for Neglect will score better even if the carer happened to be poor.

The grades are on a five point (extending from best to worst) continuum. Grade one is the best and five the worst. This grading is based on how carer(s) respond to the child's needs. This is applied in three areas of need: physical, safety, love and esteem. Each area is made up of different sub-areas, which are further broken down into different elements of care. The score for each area is made up of scores obtained from each of these elements. The highest score is the overall total for the assessed area to focus practitioner's activity.

Blank forms for the 'traffic light score sheet' and action plan can be found in section 2c.

#### The assessment tool record sheet (see section

**2b)** The toolkit covers the following indicators of neglect:



Area of physical care



Area
of care
and safety



- Nutrition
- **5** Housing
- **5** Clothing
- **b** Health
- <u> Է</u> Hygiene

- Home safety
- Supervision
- Out and about

- Attachment
- Mutual engagement
- Learning and child development

#### 1. Family name

Fill in the carer(s) name and the date of assessment at the top of the Record Sheet.

Note: The toolkit uses the word 'carer' throughout to include either a parent or a person who has a caring role for the child.

#### 2. Carer(s) names(s)

The person to whom these observations relate (one or more than one carer, as applicable).

#### 3. Methods

The first session with the carer(s) should include a friendly explanation of the assessment toolkit.

Lists of prompts are available with the tool and can be referred to during the visit. They can be used where there is already enough information on the elements or sub-areas to enable scoring.

It is important to include the voice of the child within the assessment.

#### 4. Situations

- a) So far as practicable, use the steady state of an environment and discount any temporary insignificant upsets e.g. no sleep the night before.
- b) Discount the effect of extraneous factors on the environment (e.g. house refurbished by welfare agency) unless carers have made a positive contribution, for example keeping it clean, making additions in the interest of the child such as a safe garden, outdoor or indoor play equipment, or safety features etc.
- c) Allowances should be made for background factors that can affect interaction temporarily without necessarily upsetting steady state e.g. bereavement, recent loss of job, and illness in carers. It may be necessary to revisit and score at another time.
- d) If the practitioner feels like they are being deliberately misled, seek other ways to gather evidence or leave out. Don't guess.



#### Area of physical care

#### 1. Nutritional

- (a) Quality.
- (b) Quantity.
- (c) Preparation.
- (d) Organisation.
- (e) Emotional care.

Take a comprehensive history about the meals provided including nutritional contents (milk, fruits etc.), preparation, set meal times, routine and organisation. Also note the carer's knowledge about nutrition, and the carer's reaction to suggestions made regarding nutrition (whether keen and accepting or dismissive).

Without being intrusive, observe for evidence of provision, kitchen appliances and utensils, dining furniture and its use. It is important not to lead,

but to observe the responses carefully for accuracy. Observation at a meal time in the natural setting (without special preparation) is particularly useful. Score on amount offered, and the carer's intention to feed younger children, rather than the actual amount consumed. Be aware some children may have eating/feeding problems.

#### 2. Housing

- (a) Maintenance.
- (b) Décor.
- (c) Facilities.

Observe. If deficient, ask to see if effort has been made to remedy. Ask yourself if the carer is capable of doing things him/herself. Discount if the repair or decoration is done by welfare agencies or landlord. Ensure children's bedrooms are seen.

#### 3. Clothing

- (a) Insulation.
- (b) Fitting.
- (c) Look.

Observe. See if effort has been made towards restoration, cleaning and ironing.

Refer to the age band.

#### 4. Health

- (a) Sought.
- (b) Follow-up.
- (c) Surveillance.
- (d) Disability.

Observe a child's appearance (hair, skin, behind ears and face, nails, rashes due to long-term neglect of cleanliness, teeth). Ask about practice.

Seek information from other professionals with knowledge of child health, check about immunisation and surveillance uptake, and reasons for non-attendance, if any. Check whether reasons can be appreciated particularly if appointment does not offer a clear benefit. Corroborate with relevant professionals. Distinguish genuine difference of opinion between carer and professional from nongenuine misleading reasons. Beware of being over empathetic with the carer if the child has a disability or chronic illness. Remain objective.

#### 5. Hygiene

Refer to age band.



#### Area of care and safety

- (a) Home safety.
- (b) Supervision.
- (c) Out and about.

This sub-area covers how safely the environment is organised. It includes safety features and the carer's behaviour regarding safety in every day activity (e.g. lit cigarettes left lying in the vicinity of child). The awareness may be inferred from the presence and appropriate use of safety fixtures and equipment in and around the house or in the car (child safety seat etc.), by observing handling

of young babies and supervision of toddlers. Also, observe how the carer instinctively reacts to the child being exposed to danger.

If observation is not possible, then ask about the awareness. Observe or ask about the child being allowed to cross the road, play outdoors etc. If possible, verify from other sources. Refer to the age band where indicated.



#### Area of love, relationships and self-esteem

#### 1. Attachment

This mainly relates to the carer. Sensitivity denotes the carer showing awareness of any signal from the child. The carer may become aware, yet respond a little later in certain circumstances. Response synchronisation denotes the timing of the carer's response in the form of appropriate action in relation to the signal from the child. Reciprocation represents the emotional quality of the response.

#### 2. Mutual engagement

Observe mutual interaction during feeding, playing, and other activities. Observe what happens when the carer and the child talk, touch, seek out for comfort, seek out for play, babies reach out to touch while feeding or stop feeding to look and smile at the carer. Where the child has a disability, seek information from other professionals to ensure understanding of the care that should be delivered.

Spontaneous interaction is the best opportunity to observe these areas. Observe whether the carer spontaneously talks and verbalises with the child or responds when the child makes overtures. Note whether both the carer and the child, either or neither, derive pleasure from the activity. Notewhether it is leisure, engagement or functional (e.g. feeding etc).

#### 3. Learning and child development

Observe or enquire how the child is encouraged to learn. Examples with infants (age 0-2) include: stimulating verbal interaction, interactive play, nursery rhymes or joint story reading, learning social rules, and providing developmentally stimulating equipment. If lacking, try to note if this is due to carer being occupied by other essential chores.

#### **Praise and reward**

Find out how and how much the child's achievement is rewarded or neglected. It can be assessed by asking how the child is doing or simply by praising the child and noting the carer's response (agrees with delight or neglects).

#### **Boundaries**

If the opportunity presents, observe how the child is reprimanded for undesirable behaviour. Otherwise, enquire carefully (does the child throw tantrums? How do you cope if it happens when you are tired yourself?) Beware of discrepancy between what is said and what is done. Any observation is helpful in such situations e.g. child being ridiculed or shouted at. Try and assess whether the carer is consistent.

#### **Acceptance**

Observe or probe how the carer generally feels after she has reprimanded the child, or either when the child has been reprimanded by others (e.g. teacher), when the child is underachieving, or feeling sad for various reasons. Check whether the child is rejected or accepted in such circumstances as shown by warm and supportive behaviour.

#### 4. Scoring and notes pages

Go through the elements in order and tick the box which most represents the situation. The number of the column is the score for that element. Where more than one element represents a sub-area, use the method described on the following page to obtain the overall score for the sub-area. The notes pages enable practitioner and carer to add details about what has been seen and discussed.

# 5. Obtaining a score for a sub-area from the score in its elements

The highest score for one of the elements will be the overall score for that sub-area. Therefore, if one element scores at 4 while others score at 2, then the overall score for that sub-area will be 4.

This method helps identify the problem even if it is one sub-area or element. Its primary aim is to safeguard the child's welfare while being objective. Being able to target such elements or areas is an advantage with this scale.

# 6. Transferring the score onto the traffic light score sheet

Having worked out the score for the sub-areas and elements, transfer the scores onto the record sheet, and tick the relevant boxes.

#### 7. Targeting

If the care is of a poor grade in an element or subarea, it can be identified for targeting by noting it in the table on the action plan in section 2c. Interventions can then be planned with the family to aim for a better score after a period of intervention. Aiming for one grade better will place less demand on the carer than aiming for the ideal in one leap.

#### 8. Measuring

The Assessment of Care should be used to benchmark change, progress and deterioration.

#### 9. Action plan

The action plan (see section 2c) is the working tool that arises from assessment and will inform the Child's Plan. Its aim is to describe the changes, allocate tasks and to engage families in the process. The action plan will be fluid; tasks achieved will be removed, while others will be added and reviewed in accordance with the recorded timescales for change.

#### Section 2b

# Assessment tool record sheet

**Family name:** 

Carer(s) name(s):

Child's name:

Date:

We would like to acknowledge the Action for Children toolkit has been adapted from the work of Dr O P Srivastava, Consultant Community Paediatrician, and Luton Child Development Centre who developed the original Graded Care Profile.





Carer(s) name(s): Date:					
1. Nutrition	No consern	No or low concern	Preventia ditional services required	Child prote n/social work involvement	Child protection plan as a minimum
Quality	Aware and proactive, provides quality food and drink.	Aware and usually manages to provide reasonable quality food and drink.	Provision of reasonable quality food but inconsistent.	Provision of poor quality food through lack of effort.	Quality not a consideration at all.
Quantity	Consistently provided to meet age and stage of development.	Mostly provided to meet age and stage of development.	Adequate to variable provision.	Variable too much/ too little. Inadequate snacks/lunch for school etc	Child appears underweight/ overweight, seeking food/stealing food.
Preparation	Cooked/prepared for the child's needs/ age/taste.	Usually well prepared for the family always thinking of child's needs.	Preparation infrequent, child's needs sometimes considered.	More often no preparation. If there is, child's need or taste not considered or accommodated. Inadequate facilities for preparation.	Hardly ever any preparation. Child lives on snacks/cereals, age inappropriate.
Organisation	Meals well organised - seating, timing, manners with a regular routine	Meals mostly well organised at regular times with good attention to hygiene.	Poorly organised, lacks routine, seating and poor attention to hygiene e.g. in food preparation, cleanliness of bottles/plates etc.	Poorly organised with no clear meal times and unhygienic practice in food preparation, cleanliness of feeding bottles, plates etc.	Chaotic with no routine - child eats when and what they can
Emotional care	Mealtimes are planned,	0			

enjoyable, family focused, child's needs attended to.

Meal times are usually planned and family focused.

Meal times rushed, no planned eating routines

Meals not prepared/ inadequate. Lack of family focus. Meals not prepared, child eats alone, child's needs not considered.



# 1. Nutrition Prompt questions





#### Quality

which is inappropriate for his/her age.

There is no use of fresh/frozen vegetables/fruit.

There is excessive use of sugar, sweets, crisps, chips.

Special dietary needs are not met e.g. allergies.

Carer gives toddler/baby food





#### Quantity

provided.

Carer does not provide at least one prepared meal per day.

The child appears to be extremely hungry.

The child has been observed to eat excessively/ravenously.

School age child is not provided with adequate lunch or dinner money.

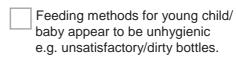
No portion control, too much food





#### **Preparation**

There are inadequate working facilities which permit meals to be prepared, e.g. cooker. There is inadequate cooking equipment e.g. pots and pans.



Scraps of old food are observed on the living/dining room floor.







#### Organisation

Special dietary needs are not met e.g. allergies.

#### **Emotional care**

	Carer appears to feed baby
	without holding him/her.

School age child is not provided with adequate lunch or dinner money.

# A. Area of physical care

Notes		
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Carer(s) name(s):

Date: 2. Housing Child pro services required work involvement plan as a minimum Some repairs Generally well State of repair is **Maintenance** Well maintained. Dangerous disrepair outstanding. Not inadequate and maintained and safe. safe, warm and which is not being always proactive in No known accidents to unmotivated to address clean. addressed (e.g. exposed addressing these child in home. issues. Conditions have nails, live wires). More issues. resulted in an accident to than one accident to a child in the home. child in home/garden. Mostly well decorated Some rooms in need Squalid, bad odour, Décor Well decorated Dirty/chaotic exposure to hazards throughout and evidence of plaster/decoration throughout home, child's environment e.g. dirty, within the home. of child's needs/ e.g. holes/marks on tastes reflected in their sticky walls, peeling preferences being walls. bedroom. paper, marks on walls. considered. **Facilities** All essential amenities. Child dangerously Essential to bare, no Essential to bare (e.g. Essential and additional effort to maximise exposed or not provided effort to consider the inadequate bedding, amenities, good heating, benefit for the child if child. for. shower/ bath, beds and lack of warmth, lacking due to practical bedding provided. unclean, no working constraints (child comes heating system, dirty first). Play and Learning toilet and bath, does facilities are evident. not have own bed/ bedding).

Note: Discount any direct external influences like repair done by another agency but count if the carer

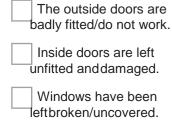


# 2. HousingPrompt questions





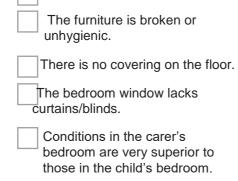
#### **Maintenance**







#### Décor



The house has a bad smell.





#### **Facilities**

bathing facilities which work and are available for washing.
The home lacks a toilet which works.
The toilet and wash basin are dirty.
The kitchen is dirty.
The kitchen equipment is unwashed.

The house lacks a working heating system.
The child has inadequate bedding (e.g. insufficient, dirty, stained and/or wet).
There is no clean working fridge.
Toothpaste, soap, toiletrolls, towels are unavailable/ inaccessible.

# A. Area of physical care

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Carer(s) name(s):

Date:					
			(3)	<u>(4)</u>	(5)
3. Clothing	No concern	No or low concern	Prevention/additional services required	Child protection/social work involvement	Child protection plan as a minimum
Suitable for weather conditions	Well protected with clothes/shoes suitable for all weathers.	Mostly well protected with appropriate clothes/shoes for the weather.	Adequate to variable weather protection. Sometimes suitably dressed but can be lacking appropriate clothing and shoes.	Inadequate weather protection, lack of warmth, hat, gloves, shoes. Overdressed in warm weather.	Clothes/shoes completely unsuitable, putting child at risk.
Fitting	Excellentt Fitting and allows comfortable movement.	Reasonable fit and well maintained	Clothing inconsistent, a little too loose or too small.	Clothes clearly too large or too small.	Totally inappropriate fit.
Look	Clean, ironed and well presented.	Some effort to restore any wear and clean.	Repair lacking, usually not quite clean.	Unwashed, dirty and crumpled. Little effort made.	Unwashed, dirty, badly worn, crumpled and smelly.



# **3. Clothing**Prompt questions





#### Insulation

The child does not have clothes appropriate for the weather.

The child has no waterproof coat.

The child's shoes let in water.





#### Fitting and adequacy

- The child has clothes that do not fit him/her.

  There are insufficient nappies for baby/toddler.
- The child sleeps in his/her day time clothes.
- The child lacks his/her own personal clothes.
- The child lacks enough clean clothes to allow regular changing.





#### Look

- A child who soils/wets is left in dirty/wet clothes or dirty/wet bedding.
- There is no place for keeping the child's clothes together e.g. cupboard/drawers/basket/bag.
- The child lacks enough clean clothes to allow regularchanging.

- The child's clothes smell.

  The child's clothes look really dirty.
- There are large holes/tears or several missing buttons/ fasteners on the child's clothes.



# (i) A. Area of physical care

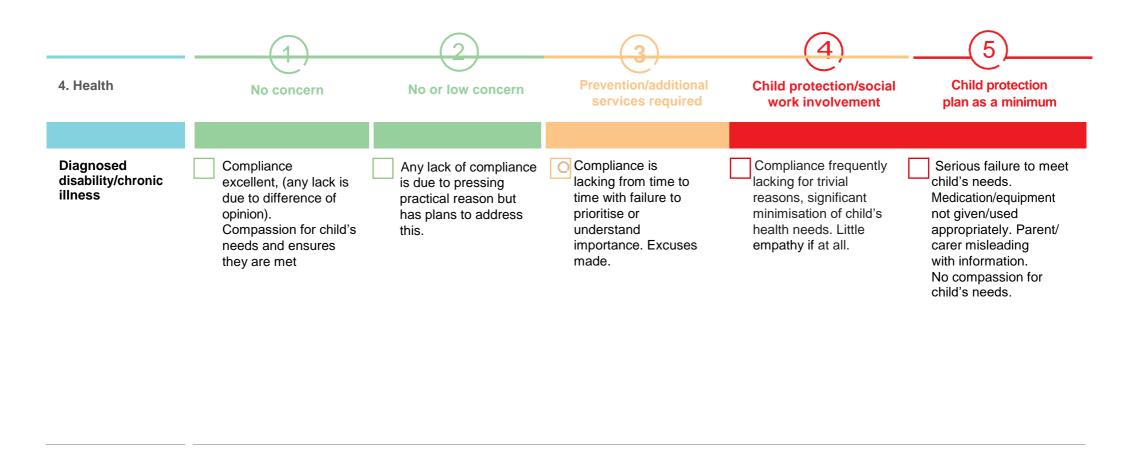
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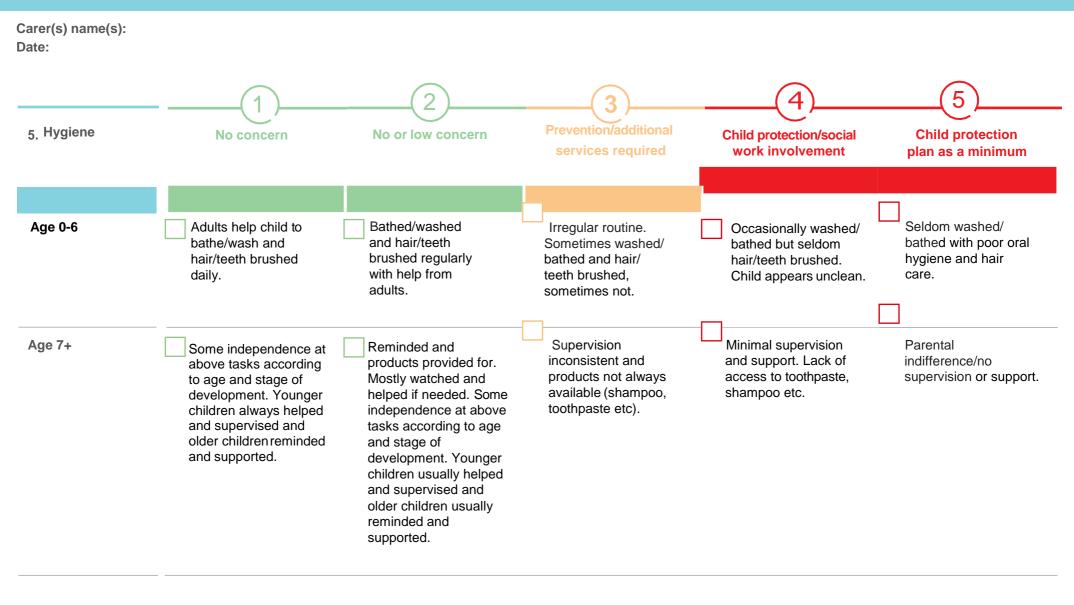
# A. Area of physical care | Health

Carer(s) name(s): Date:					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	<u>(4)</u>	(5)
4. Health	No concern	No or low concern	Prevention/additional services required	Child protection/social work involvement	Child protection plan as a minimum
Opinion sought	Seeks medical, dental and optical care on preventative basis and for presenting issues.	Seeks advice and responds to guidance from professionals on matters of concern about child health including dental and optical care.	Inconsistently responds to guidance provided on child's preventative health. Only seeks medical advice on persistent/serious illness. Child may not be registered with GP or dentist. Alternatively seeks guidance on illness of any severity, resulting in unnecessary consultation's	Delays seeking medical care until moderately severe. Dental and optical care not sought. Alternatively seeks medical care and labels for child to meet own needs.	Medical attention only sought when illness becomes critical (emergencies) or ignored.
Follow up	All appointments kept. Rearranges ifproblems.	Fails to bring child to occasional appointments due to doubt about their usefulness, error or due to pressing practical constraints.	Does not bring child to one in two appointments due to failure to prioritise needs of the child.	Only takes child if prompted. Doubts its usefulness even if it is of clear benefit to the child.	Fails to take child to appointments despite prompts. Reasons for non-attendance lack clarity or are misleading.
Surveillance	Up to date with immunisation and health checks unless genuine reservations.	Up to date with immunisation and health checks unless exceptional or practical problems but has plans	to address this.	Child not taken for some immunisations and health checks. Fails to prioritise but takes up if persuaded	Omissions becauseof carelessness, accepts health input if accessed at home.











# **4. Health** Prompt questions





**Opinion sought** 

medical problems in the child, e.g. discharge from ears, squint, recurring diarrhoea.

Carer appears to be unaware that the child has a need for dental treatment.

Carer seeks medical opinion inappropriately.

Carer has failed to report





Follow up

Carer fails to follow through on planned medical appointments if required.





Surveillance

Carer fails to attend for regular developmental checks with young child.



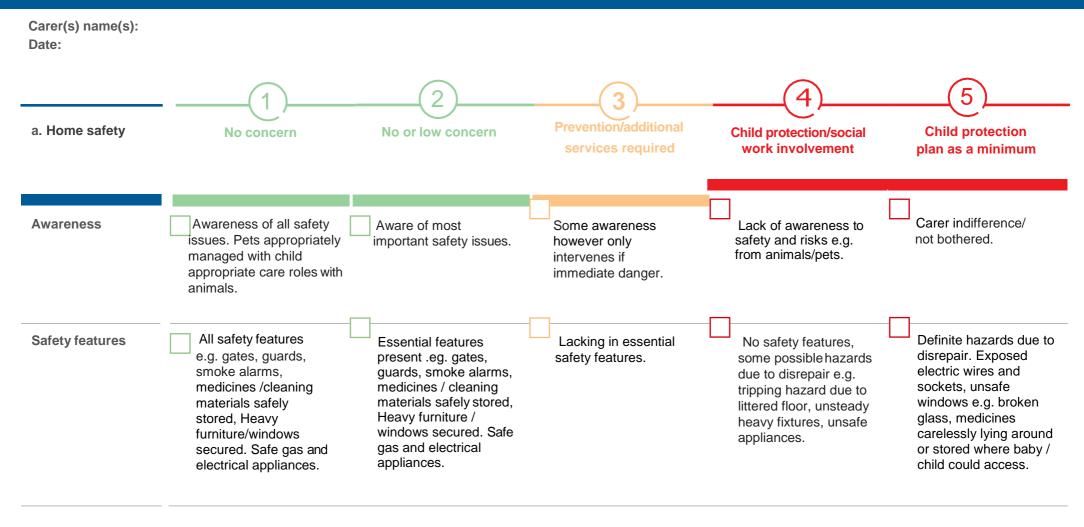
# A. Area of physical care

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### **B. Area of care and safety** | Home safety





## B. Area of care and safety | Supervision

Carer(s) name(s): Date: Child protection/social b. Supervision **Child protection** No concern No or low concern work involvement plan as a minimum services required Baby / Appropriate cautious Appropriately cautious Handling careless, Handling unsafe, Dangerous handling. pre-mobility age with handling and frequently unattended with handling and unattended even during left dangerously laving down, checks if when laid down laying down, seldom care chores (bottle left in unattended during unattended. unattended. in house. the mouth). care chores like bath. Toddler/ Vigilant and effective Effective measures Inconsistent reactions ack of safe No supervision which against any imminent to potentially risky supervision and preschool measures against any exposes child to reliance on situations. Over perceived dangers when danger including danger (e.g. hot iron technology/TV. reliance on TV /other supervision and controls up and about including nearby). Lack of safe Lack of parental technology to keep when using technology/ supervision and controls supervision, and control child occupied. watching TV (e.g. when using technology/ reliance on technology/ watching TV etc. (e.g. defined time limits TV has exposed child defined time limits). to inappropriate content Age 4-10 Close supervision indoor Lack of supervision. Child is blamed for Supervision indoors, no Little supervision and outdoor including direct supervision Intervenes after mishaps mishaps. No indoors and outdoors if known to be supervision/safety which soon lapses again. supervision/safety outdoors. Acts if at a safe place. controls in relation to Not always aware of controls in relation to noticeable danger. Monitors access child's whereabouts. No internet/social media/ internet/social media/ Few supervision/ to internet/social TV/games. supervision/safety TV/games. Regularly safety controls in controls in relation to media/TV/games. accesses relation to internet/ internet/social media/TV/ inappropriate content social media/TV/ games, Child has and child is games. Parent lacks accessed inappropriate dangerously exposed/ knowledge and skills content / been a victim vulnerable through use about online safety. through use of social of social media etc. media etc.

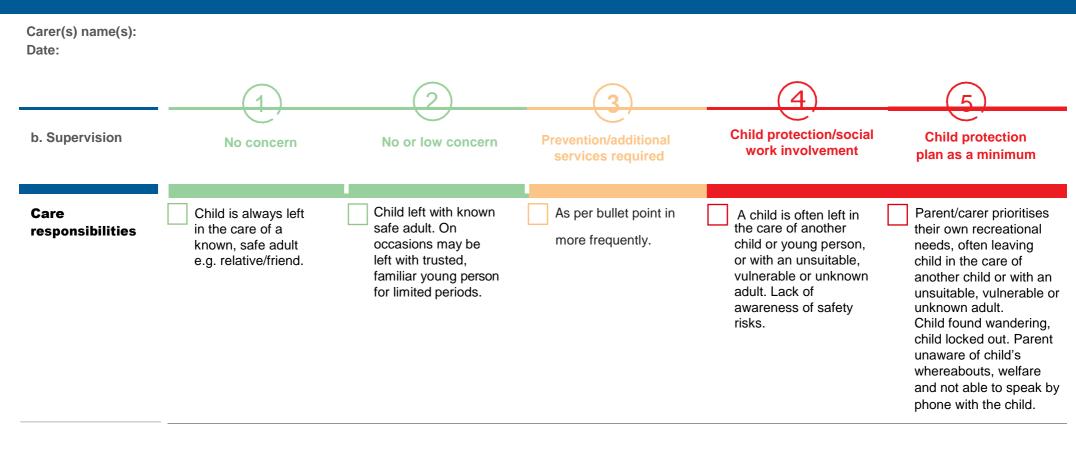


### B. Area of care and safety | Supervision

Carer(s) name(s): Date: Child protection/social b. Supervision **Child protection** Prevention/additional No concern No or low concern work involvement plan as a minimum services required Not always aware of Age 10-16 Not bothered despite Child allowed in known Not concerned about Child allowed out in whereabouts outdoors, safe surroundings with late nights for child/ knowledge of dangers unfamiliar surroundings believing it is safe as young person younger outdoors e.g. railway time limits and checks. if thought to be safe with long as child returns in Age appropriate safety, than 13. No supervision/ lines, unsafe buildings or time limits. Age time. Few supervision/ safety controls in relation staying out late/ supervision and appropriate safety, safety controls in to internet/social media/ overnight. No controls for internet. supervision and controls relation to internet/ TV/games, Young supervision/safety TV, social media, for internet, TV, social social media/TV/games. person has accessed controls in relation to games exposure. media, games exposure. Carer lacks knowledge inappropriate content / internet/social media/TV/ and skills about online been a victim through games. Regularly safety. use accesses inappropriate of social media etc. content and young person is dangerously exposed/vulnerable through use of social media etc.



## B. Area of care and safety | Supervision





# B. Area of care and safety | Out and about

Carer(s) name(s): Date:					
c. Out and about	No concern	No or low concern	Prevention/additional services required	Child protection/social work involvement	Child protection plan as a minimum
Age 0-4	Well secured in the pram, harnesses or walking hand held with attention to child's pace.	Carer responds to surroundings e.g. crowds/traffic and holds hand or keeps close by.	Infants not secured in pram. 3 to 4-year-old expected to catch up with adult when walking. Carer distracted by mobile phone, glances back now and again if child left behind.	Babies not secured 3 to 4-year-olds left far behind when walking. Carer often distracted and compromises child safety e.g. owing to use of mobile phone.	Babies unsecured, careless with pram, 3 to 4-year-old left to wander. Carer often distracted and compromises child safety e.g. owing to use of mobile phone. Parents/carer shouts or
Age 5+	5 to 10-year-old escorted by carer crossing a busy road walking close together.	Child is escorted by carer crossing busy roads but older children have some independence where safe and appropriate.	5-7 yr old can cross with an older child and simply watched. 8-9 yr old can cross alone if appropriate	Lack of guidance and supervision by carer with child allowed to cross busy roads alone.	uses unsuitable responses.  A child crosses a busy road alone without any concern or thought. Carer fails to appreciate the danger that the child is exposed to.



#### **Prompt questions**





#### a. Home safety

The house or garden/yard is frequently fouled with animal faeces or urine.





#### b. Safety features

- The garden is full of rubbish.

  The home has no safety gate in regular use for a toddler.
- If fires are used there is no fire guard.
- Outside doors cannot be locked.
- Windows can easily be opened by small child.

- Dangerous substances are placed within young child's reach.
- Potentially dangerous objects are left within easy reach of young child.



### **B.** Area of care and safety

#### Prompt questions













#### c. Supervision

#### Toddler/preschool

- The home has no safety gate in regular use for a toddler.
  - If fires are used there is no fire guard.
- The child is left in an un- enclosed garden / yard.
- The child has frequent accidents inside the house or in the garden involving injuries.
- The carer does not know where a young child is within the home/ building.

#### Child aged 4 to 7-years-old

- The carer does not know where a young child is when he/she is out playing.
- The carer does not know where a young child is within the home / building.
- The child does not know where the carer is.
- The child has frequent accidents inside the house or in the garden involving injuries.

#### Child aged 8 years and above

- The child has frequent accidents inside the house or in the garden involving injuries.
- The carer cannot state the agreed limits of the child's play area.
- The child is locked out of the house.

#### d. Out andabout

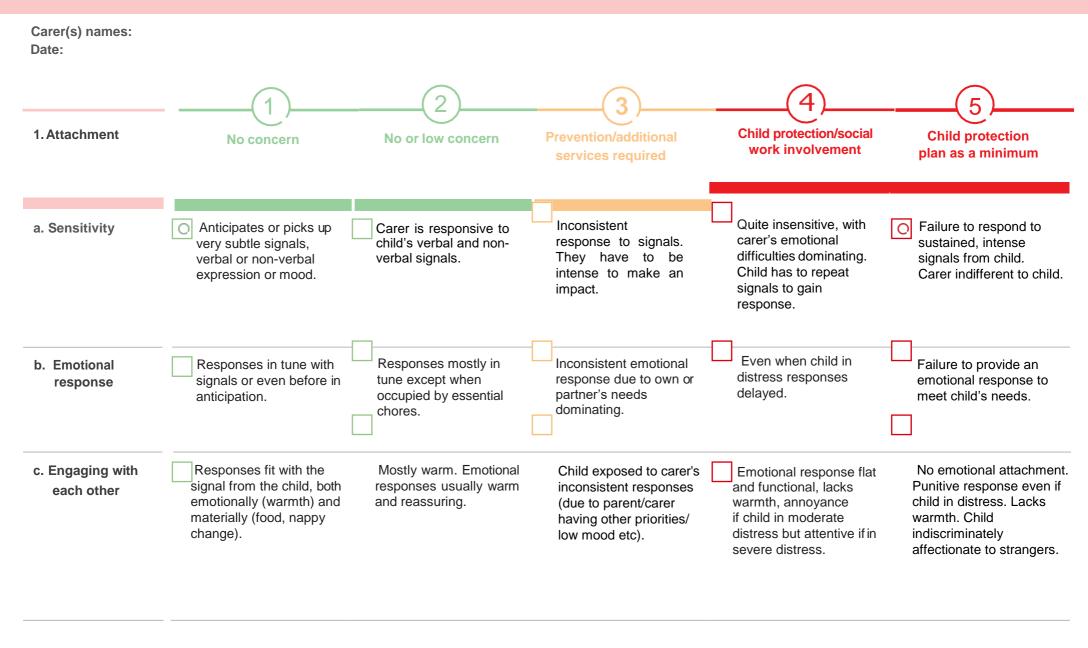
- The carer allows child aged under 8 to cross roads on his/her own.
- The child aged under 8 makes his/ her own way to school or nursery.



# **B.** Area of care and safety

Notes		







Carer(s) names: Date:					
2. Mutual engagement	No concern	No or low concern	Prevention/additional services required	Child protection/social work involvement	Child protection plan as a minimum
a. Interaction	Carer frequently initiates interaction with child and shows enjoyment.	Parent/carer usually happy to engage with child.	Interaction mainly led by child, sometimes by parent/ carer. Can be distracted or unavailable by use of mobile phone or similar.	Carer seldom initiates interaction. Child seeking engagement with parent/carer.	Child appears resigned, apprehensive or wary. Alternatively, child constantly seeks parent/ carer contact.
b. Quality	Frequent pleasure in engagement, mutual enjoyment.	Quite often and both enjoy equally.	Less often engaged for pleasure, child enjoys more, carer passively participates getting some enjoyment at times.	Engagement mainly functional, indifferent when child attempts to engage. Carer shows little enjoyment.	Carer does not engage and shows no awareness of how to engage with child. Child resigned or plays on own.



## 1. Attachment Prompt questions





### a. Sensitivity

- Carer response to child's immediate need or behaviour is insensitive/inconsistent.
- Carer does not check spiteful play with siblings/pets.
- Carer expects child to look after him/herself inappropriately.





### **b.** Emotional response

- Carer does not comfort child when distressed.
- Child is provocative with carer to elicit boundary/control setting.





### c. Engaging with each other

- Child does not notice/care when carer leaves the room (age appropriate).
- Child is inappropriately withdrawn with other adults.
- Child is clingy/anxious for too long after short separation from carer (age appropriate).



### 2. Mutual engagement **Prompt questions**





#### a. Interaction

Carer does not show physical affection to/for child. Carer spends very little time with child. Carer does not interact with child. Carer does not listen to child. Carer is distracted by use of mobile phone.





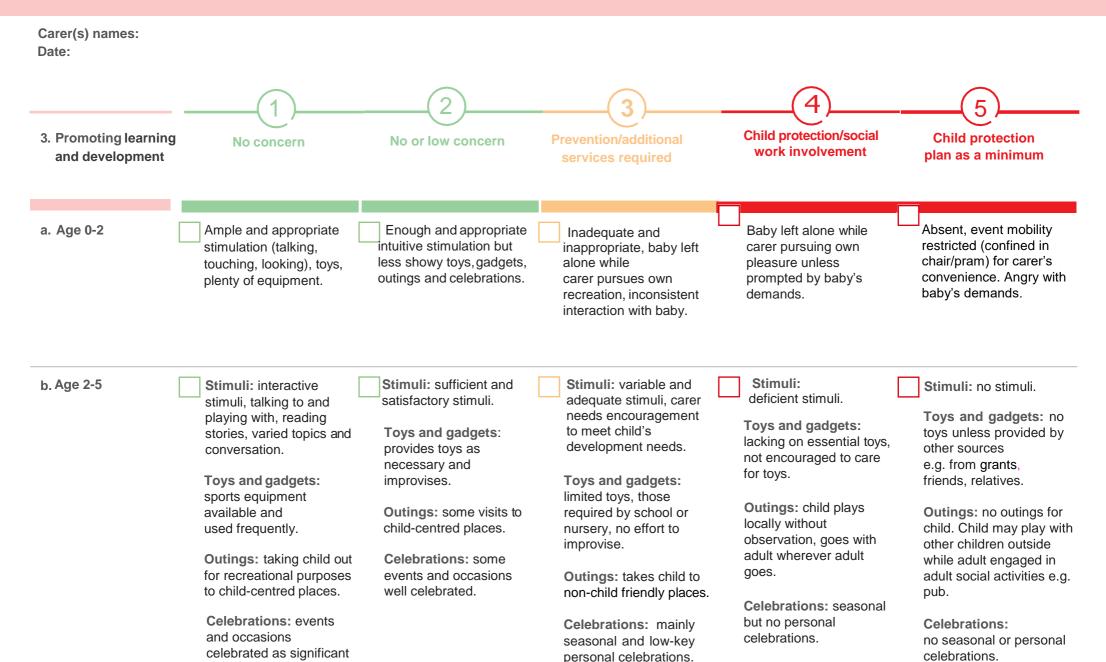
### b. Quality

- Carer does not comfort child when distressed.
- Carer does not control child when control is needed.
- Child is indiscriminately affectionate to stranger.



Notes		



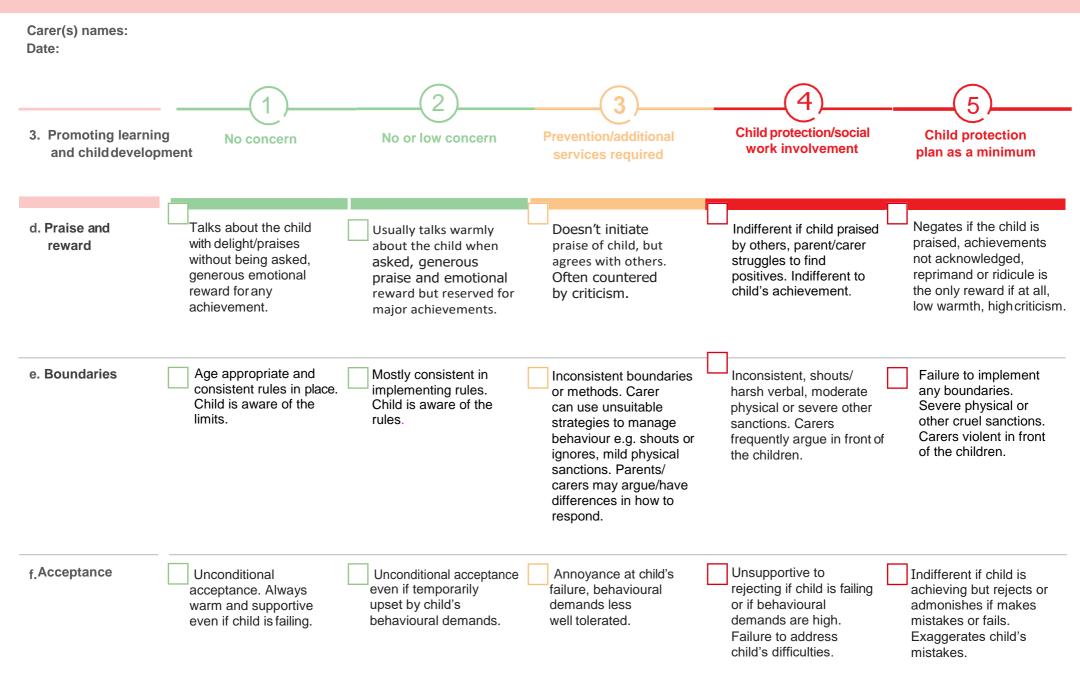


days in family life.



Carer(s) names: Date: Child protection/social 3. Promoting learning **Child protection** Prevention/additional No or low concern No concern work involvement plan as aminimum services required and child development **Education:** active c. Aged 5+ **Education:** active Education: not bothered or can Education: child Education: maintains interest in schooling even be discouraging for other interest in schooling. makes all the effort, schooling but little and support at home, support at home when carer not bothered. support at home even if gains. attendance regular. free of essential chores. has spare time. Sports and leisure: Sports and leisure: not child makes all the Sports and leisure: Sports and leisure: bothered even if child is involved Sports and leisure: all effort, carer not well organised outside in unsafe activities. affordable support. not proactive in finding bothered. school hours, e.g. out but avails Peer interaction: swimming, Scouts. opportunities if offered. facilitated on Peer interaction: child Peer interaction: carer occasions. Peer interaction: finds own friendships. Peer interaction: indifference, lacks motivation. facilitated and no help from carer support available approved. Games and access to through friendships. unless reported to be Games and access to information: mostly bullied. Games and access to information: carer indifference. well provided with Games and access to information: well safety controls. Games and access to information: under provided for, including information: poorly provided or little access to a computer provided and lack of supervision/control in with safety controls. safety controls/ place. supervision.







### 3. Promoting learning and child development Prompt questions







- Carer is unaware of child's age appropriate developmental needs. Carer has poor eye contact with child. Carer does not provide child. based family routines. Carer does not provide books/toys for child.
- b. Aged 2-5 years
- Carer does not provide child based family routines.
- Carer does not provide books/toys for child.





- c. Aged 5+ years
- Carer regularly withdraws child from school/nursery.
- Child turns up late for school/ nursery.
- Carer fails to respond to school liaison requests.
- Carer does not return school diary/notes relevant to the child's welfare.
- Carer does not provide child based family routines e.g. appropriate for schooling.
- Carer does not provide books/toys for child.





- d. Praise and Reward
- Carer does not show pride in child's achievement.
- Child does not seek praise from carer.





e. Boundaries

Carer is involved in violence with
partner/other adult in front of child.

	Carer frequently quarrels with partner/
	adult in front of child.

	Carer has made suicidal threats in	1
	front of child.	

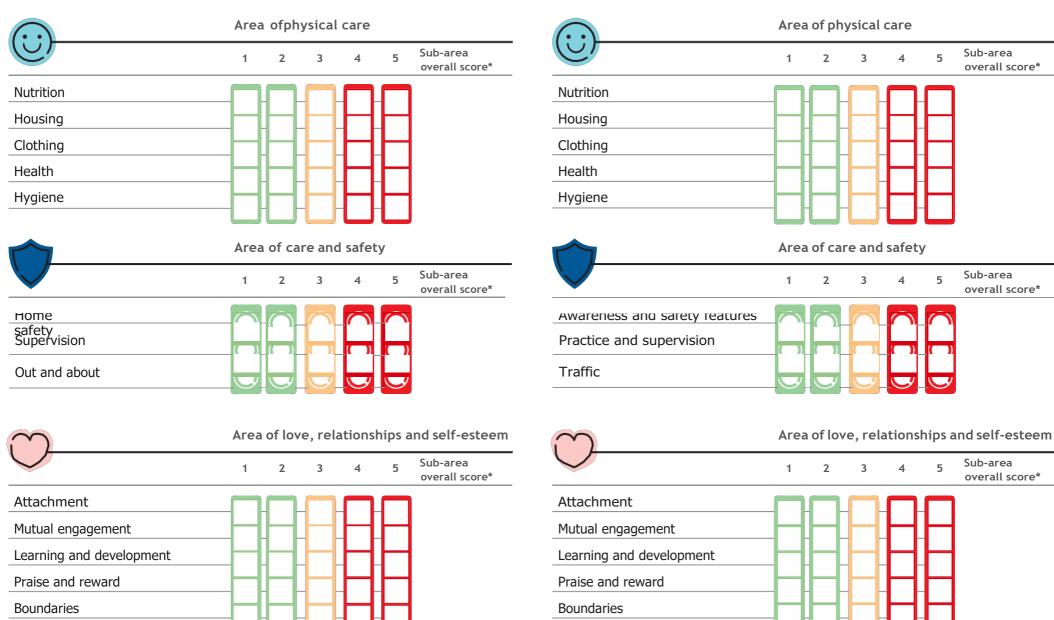
Carer has attempted suicide in the
presence of the child.

Carer has threatened to leave the
child.



Notes		

## 2c. Traffic light score sheet



Acceptance



Acceptance

# 2c.Action plan

Name(s of) carer(s):

Staff name:

Date:

Where are we now?	What needs to happen?	Who is going to do it?	Our timescales change	What progress has been made?