

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership and Children's Trust Thresholds Chart

Update February 2025 (contact details)

Threshold:	1. Universal	2. Early Help	3. Targeted Early Help	4. Children's Social Care (child in need/child in need of protection)
The Child or Young Person (maybe unborn):	Has needs met within universal provision. May need limited intervention within the setting to avoid needs arising.	Has additional needs identified within the setting that can be met within identified resources through a single-agency response and partnership working.	Has multiple needs requiring a multi-agency coordinated response.	Has a high level of unmet and complex needs or is in need of protection.
	 The following circumstances and key indicators are for guidance and should always be considered in respect of the impact on the child or young person including unborn and newborn infants. Each child's case will be individually considered taking into account the child's circumstances and the strengths of the family.			
Circumstances and Key Features:	Developmental Needs of child - Achieving age related expectations in education - Good attendance at school - Meeting developmental milestones - Has psychological wellbeing - Socially interactive and skilled - Ability to protect self and be protected	Developmental Needs of Child - Absence/truancy from education - Incidence of absence/missing from home - Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan) - Is disabled and has specific additional needs - Is a young carer - Is showing signs of being drawn into antisocial or criminal behaviour including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups - Is misusing drugs or alcohol - Has previously been in care/returned home to their family from care - Subject to fixed-period suspensions - At risk of social exclusion - Has poor attachments - Language and communication difficulties - Reduced access to core services - Potential for becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) - Potential not to attain - Slow in meeting developmental milestones - Child appears underweight and there are concerns about nutrition¹ - Child appears overweight or obese² - Missing health checks/immunisations - Minor health problems - Poor self-esteem - Low level emotional/mental health issues - Inappropriate use of social media (e.g., use of inappropriate images)	Developmental Needs of Child - Persistent absence from education - Missing from school/home regularly - Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan) - No access to core services - Social exclusion - Poor attachments - Is disabled and has specific additional needs - Is subject to permanent exclusions/no school place/no education - Not in education, employment or training (NEET) - Has returned home to their family from care - Developmental milestones not being met due to persistent parental failure/inability - Child is underweight and there is significant concern about lack of nutrition/potential consequences to their health and wellbeing or lack of parent/carers engagement - Child appears overweight/obese, and health professional confirms that intervention over time is not impacting and there is concern about consistent engagement of parents/carers in support given. - Chronic/recurring health problems - Regular missed appointments affecting developmental progress - Teenage pregnancy - Is misusing drugs or alcohol	Developmental Needs of Child - Chronic persistent or severe absence from education, permanent exclusions or no school place/no education that risks entry to the care system - Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home - Persistent social exclusion - Poor attachments - Complex/multiple disabilities - Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan) - Actual or suspected bruising or other injury in an infant who is not independently mobile - A child of any age, who is not independently mobile with bruising or unexplained marks. - Complex mental health issues affecting developmental needs including self-harm - High level emotional health issues and very low self-esteem - Has recently returned home to their family from care - Unexplained (Non-organic) failure to thrive - Lack of food or very poor diet linked to neglect (please see Hampshire and Isle of Wight Neglect toolkit and Indicators chart) - Child appears overweight/obese and there is imminent severe health risk due to obesity (medical conditions and psychosocial risks such as difficulties with physical function, self-esteem or a

¹ Children who appear under or overweight should be referred to a health professional for assessment.

² Children who may be overweight or obese should be referred to a health professional for assessment.

			• Problematic sexual behaviour/underage sexual activity • Offending/antisocial behaviour resulting in risk of entering the Youth Justice System • Emotional/mental health issues including self-harm • Is showing signs of being drawn into antisocial or criminal behaviour including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups • Inappropriate/problematic use of social media (e.g., sexting/use of inappropriate images) • Is at risk of exploitation	lack of progress at level 3 and parents/carers are consistently failing to engage with support given. • Problematic/harmful sexual behaviour • Sexually aggressive behaviour • Teenage parent or pregnancy under the age of 13 • Drug/alcohol use severely impairing development • Relationship breakdown between child and parent/carer that risks entry to the care system • Offending/antisocial behaviour and in the Youth Justice System • Refugee children – defined as separated children seeking asylum or having been granted asylum in the UK. • Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking, missing or exploitation is evidenced • Is at risk of being radicalised (PREVENT) or exploited • Is a privately fostered child • Inappropriate/problematic use of social media (e.g., sexting/use of inappropriate images) • Sexual exploitation/abuse (including online)
	Family and Environment • Supportive relationships • Housed, good diet and kept healthy • Supportive networks • Access to positive activities	Family and Environment • Family or household member relies on child for some care • Poor parent/child relationships • Children of prisoners/parent subject to community order(s) • Child exposed to bullying environment • Poor housing, poor home environment or poor/limited diet impacting on child's health • Community harassment/discrimination • Low income affects achievement • Parenting advice needed to prevent needs escalating • Poor access to core services • Risk of relationship breakdown • Concerns about possible domestic abuse	Family and Environment • Housing tenancy at risk • Imminent risk of homelessness • Community harassment/discrimination • Domestic abuse • Relationship breakdown • Transient family • Is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues and domestic abuse • Community harassment/discrimination • Child and adolescent to parent, violence and abuse (CAPVA). Repeated abusive behaviour, that may include physical violence, emotional, economic or sexual abuse and coercive control. Risk of family breakdown and/or siblings at risk due to exposure to the abuse. • Poverty and financial hardship affecting child's wellbeing	Family and Environment • Suspicion of physical, emotional or sexual abuse, or neglect • Domestic abuse resulting in child being at risk of significant harm • Homeless child/young person • Family intentionally homeless • Extreme poverty significantly affecting child's wellbeing • Forced marriage, Honour-Based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation, Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII) • Child and adolescent to parent, violence and abuse (CAPVA). Significant repeated abusive behaviour, that may include physical violence, emotional, economic or sexual abuse and coercive control. Risk of immediate family breakdown and/or siblings at risk of continued physical harm due to the abuse
	Parents and Carers • Protected by carers • Secure and caring home • Receive and act on information, advice and guidance • Appropriate boundaries maintained	Parents and Carers • Inconsistent care arrangements • Poor supervision by parent/carer • Inconsistent parenting • Poor response to emerging needs • Historic context of parents/carers own childhood	Parents and Carers • Parental learning or physical disability, substance misuse or mental health issues impact on parenting • Inconsistent care arrangements • Poor supervision by parent/carer	Parents and Carers • Previous history of child/ren of one or more adult in the household being in care or subject to child protection plans • Parental encouragement of abusive/offending behaviour

		• Parent or other family member involved in offending behaviour/subject to supervision within the criminal justice system	• Inconsistent parenting • Poor response to identified needs • Historic context of parents/carers own childhood • Parent or other family member involved in offending behaviour/subject to supervision within the criminal justice system	• Continuing poor supervision in the home resulting in significant harm or risk of significant harm • Parental non-compliance/disguised compliance or cooperation • Inconsistent parenting affects child's developmental progress
What Do I Do Next?	Go direct to the family information site: IOW Family Information Hub Hampshire Family Information and Services Hub	Consider Early Help checklist. Referral to agency for support to meet identified needs. For further advice or guidance in respect of Early Help, contact your local Family Support Service.	Early Help assessment to be considered. If you require advice or guidance in respect of the child or young person's needs, submit an Inter-Agency Referral Form to the Children's Reception Team.	Use the Inter-Agency Referral Form to refer to the Children's Reception Team or phone on 01329 225379 (Hampshire) 01983 823436 (Isle of Wight) if the matter is an urgent safeguarding issue. Alternatively, ring police on 999 if at immediate risk.
Level of Assessment:	No formal assessment	IOW Early Help Information Hampshire Early Help Information	Early Help assessment	Child and Family assessment / child protection (S47) investigation

Refer via: Hampshire Inter-Agency Referral Form (IARF) Isle of Wight Inter-Agency Referral Form (IARF)	Hampshire Professionals Number: 01329 225379	Isle of Wight Professionals Number: 01983 823436	Emergencies: 999
	Hampshire Public Number: 0300 555 1384	Isle of Wight Public Number: 01983 823435	

Further Resources

HIPS Child Sexual Abuse Toolkit	HSCP and IOWSCP Neglect Toolkit including the Neglect Indicators Chart and Educational Neglect Advice for Practitioners
HSCP and IOWSCP Safeguarding Adolescents Toolkit	HIPS Adopting a Family Approach Toolkit
HSCP and IOWSCP Safeguarding Infants Toolkit 3.16 Unborn/Newborn Baby Safeguarding Protocol Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton (hipsprocedures.org.uk)	HIPS Child Exploitation Toolkit
HSCP Strengthening Parental Relationships Toolkit	IOW Council Supporting Parental Relationships for Professionals
IOWSCP Recognising and Responding to Cumulative-Harm Multi-Agency Practice Resource	HSCP Multi-Agency Practice Resource - Cumulative Harm
Child on Child Abuse: Addressing-child-on-child-abuse.pdf (farrer.co.uk) as noted in KCSIE 2022 HIPS Child Sexual Abuse Toolkit: Harmful Sexual Behaviour HSCP and IOWSCP Child on Child Abuse Toolkit	Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse: CAPVA Respect