



Basic Safeguarding Children Slides for Professionals

APRIL 2019

Training Slides

- ▶ These slides have been developed to help agencies to give the right messages to practitioners within their organisation in relation to safeguarding children and young people
- ▶ Please feel free to use these slides but if you do, please remember to credit the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board with their use and please do not charge others for using these free slides
- ▶ If you want to build further on your knowledge and awareness about safeguarding children training then please sign up to the SCPB training courses found at :
<http://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/availabletraining/>

Children Act (1989)

The Children Act (1989) provides the main legislative framework for Safeguarding Children.

- ▶ Section 17 establishes a definition for a 'child in need'
- ▶ Section 47 sets a statutory duty for Child Protection Enquiries

S.17 Definition of a Child in Need

... A child shall be taken to be in need if—

(a) he is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him of services by a local authority under this Part;

(b) his health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for him of such services; or

(c) he is disabled,

and “family”, in relation to such a child, includes any person who has parental responsibility for the child and any other person with whom he has been living.

Section 47 - Where it is suspected that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, the local authority is required by section 47 of the Children Act 1989 to make enquiries to enable it to decide whether to take any action to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child. A section 47 enquiry should be carried out through a core assessment. Depending upon the nature of the concern Social Care may jointly conduct enquiries with the Police (if it is felt a criminal offence may have occurred)

Children Act 1989- Section 47



Further Relevant Child Protection Legislation

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003

Children and Young Persons Act 2008

Children and Families Act 2014

Children and social work Act 2017

Not to mention – Sexual Offences Acts / various Crime Acts / Disability Acts / Data protection etc



HM Government



Working Together 2018

Working Together to Safeguard Children

A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children

July 2018

‘Everyone who works with children has a responsibility for keeping them safe. No single practitioner can have a full picture of a child’s needs and circumstances and, if children and families are to receive the right help at the right time, everyone who comes into contact with them has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action.’

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.pdf

Defining *Significant Harm*

From the Cambridge English Dictionary:

Significant: important or noticeable

Harm: Physical or other injury or damage

Meaning of **harm** in English

☰ Contents

harm

noun [U] • UK  /hɑ:m/ US  /hɑ:rm/

★ B2 physical or other injury or damage:

Serious Harm

11. Serious harm includes (but is not limited to) serious **and/or** long-term impairment of a child's mental health or intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development. It should also cover impairment of physical health⁷⁵. This is not an exhaustive list. When making decisions, judgment should be exercised in cases where impairment is likely to be long-term, even if this is not immediately certain. Even if a child recovers, including from a one-off incident, serious harm may still have occurred.

Description of Serious Harm from Working Together 2018

There are Four Types of Child Abuse



Physical



Emotional



Sexual



Neglect

Other Areas to Consider

FGM
(Female Genital
Mutilation)

Forced
Marriage

PREVENT

CSE (Child
Sexual
Exploitation)

CCE (Child
Criminal
Exploitation)

Domestic
Violence

Online Abuse

Safeguarding Children Partnership Board

- ▶ The Safeguarding Children Partnership Board is responsible for progressing the Boards business priorities through the business plan and finalise the annual report.

The Board :

- ▶ Authorises multi-agency safeguarding policy, procedures, guidance and strategy required to support Board priorities and effective children safeguarding.
- ▶ Scrutinises, challenges and maintain an overview of children safeguarding in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
- ▶ This constructive challenge is undertaken through quality assurance activity, learning and development programmes and commissioning and overseeing local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews / other learning reviews/ methodologies (as required.)

Safeguarding Children Partnership Board

The work of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Children Safeguarding Partnership Board includes:

- ▶ Assessing the effectiveness of help provided to children and families, including early help
- ▶ Assessing whether partner agencies are fulfilling statutory obligations in relation to safeguarding children
- ▶ Quality assuring practice through joint audits of case files and identifying lessons to be learned
- ▶ Monitoring and evaluating effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training
- ▶ Developing and agreeing local policies and procedures; including action to be taken when there are concerns, thresholds for intervention and allegations against staff
- ▶ Raising awareness in the wider community of the need to safeguard children

Lived Experience of the Child

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Children Safeguarding Board Lived Experience of the Child Practitioner Guidance has been developed by partners to assist practitioner insight, to ensure that the voice of the child is actively heard and where necessary to support effective action to safeguard our children and young people.



**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
Safeguarding Children's Board**

**Lived Experience of the Child (Voice of the
Child) Practice Guidance**

VERSION 2 August 2018

The **‘lived experience of the child’** is; ‘What a child sees, hears, thinks and experiences on a daily basis that impacts on their personal development and welfare whether that be physically or emotionally. As practitioners we need to; actively hear what the child has to say or communicate, observe what they do in different contexts, hear what family members, significant adults/carers and professionals have said about the child, and to think about history and context. Ultimately we need to put ourselves in that child’s shoes and think ‘what is life like for this child right now?’

[Definition of ‘lived experience’ task and finish group 2018]



The Effective Support for Children and Families in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Document (**threshold document**) is intended to assist practitioners in identifying a child's level of need and what type of service/resource may meet those needs. Using their professional judgement along with this guide, practitioners will feel better equipped to direct families to appropriate resources at the appropriate time.

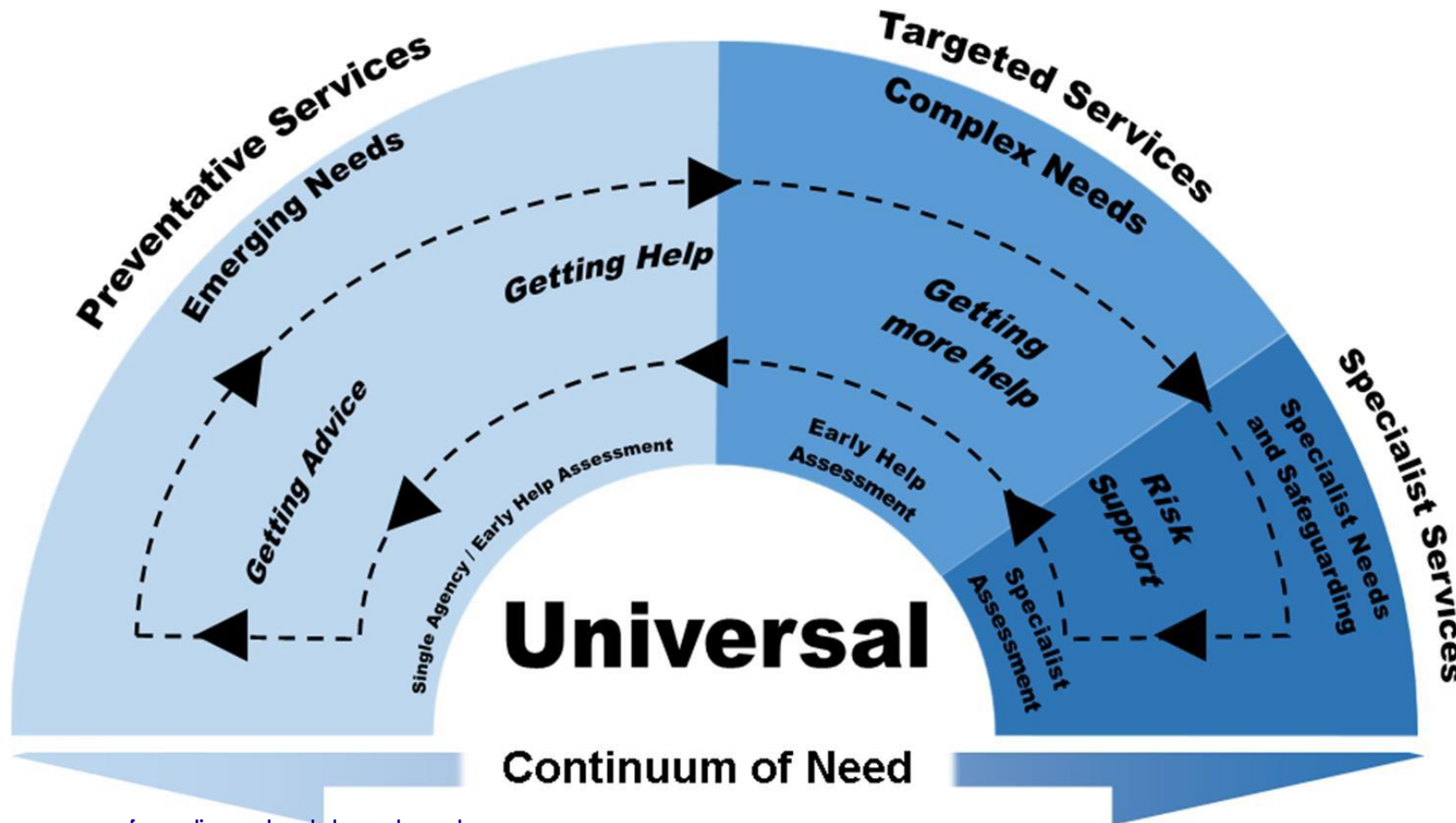


Effective Support for Children and Families in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire

Guidance for all practitioners in working
together with children and families to provide
early help, targeted and specialist support

November 2018

Continuum of Need



www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Effective-Support-for-Children-and-Families-Thresholds-Document.pdf

Principles When Working With Families

Key principles that should underpin our work with families:

- ▶ Openness and transparency in terms of discussing concerns with families and involving them in decision making [except in very specific circumstances];
- ▶ Recognition that in many cases, families do not have to accept support should they choose not to;
- ▶ That in almost all cases, consent is needed before referrals can be made;
- ▶ Successful outcomes are most likely to result from engagement with families overtime

Consent

The clear expectation is that all professionals will discuss their concerns openly and honestly with the child, where appropriate, and their parents or carers, **except** where to do so might place the child or another person at immediate risk of harm or prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

Where this is the case, consent to refer concerns is not required and contact should be made with Children's Social Care as soon as possible. In emergency situations, contact should be made with the Police.

Early Help

The Early Help Assessment is single assessment that is created with the family. It should reflect their views, wishes and feelings and what they want to change. It is shared when appropriate [and where there is consent] with other professionals who are working in a coordinated way to support the family.

Early Help- Cambridgeshire

Cambridgeshire Early Help Hub:

- ▶ [01480 376 666](tel:01480376666) (office hours) or
- ▶ early.helphub@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
- ▶ Assessment form available to download

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/parenting-and-family-support/providing-children-and-family-services-how-we-work/>

Cambridgeshire Early Help Assessment

Family Name:	Date of Assessment:
Main Family Address:	
Family Telephone Number:	Family Email:
Name of Assessor:	Assessor Telephone Number:
Role / Organisation:	Assessor Email:

Family Details

Please identify who is in the family / household and other significant family members who may not live in the household

Full name <small>Indicate PR in brackets e.g. John Smith (PR)</small>	Date of birth or est. due date	Gender M / F	Ethnic origin <small>(see guidance sheet for codes)</small>	First language	Does the assessment relate to this person? Y / N	Do they live at the main family address? Y / N

Please provide the address of family members listed who do not live at the main family address:	
Full Name	Address

What has led to this assessment at this time?

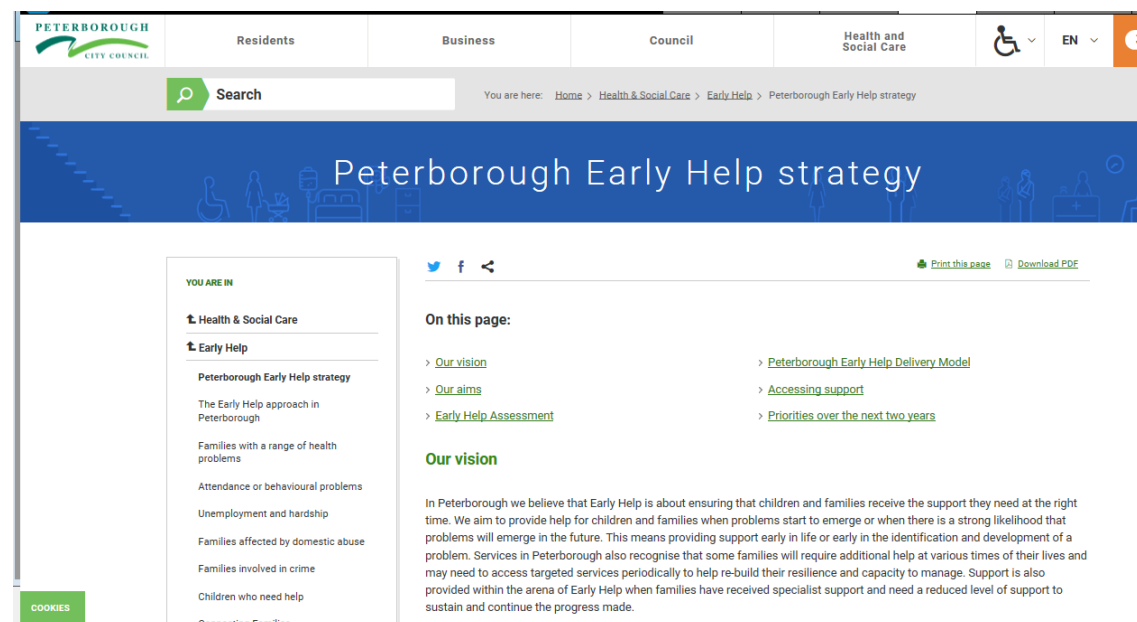
What support has already been provided? (Think back at least 12 months) What are the current reasons / difficulties which mean the interventions / service involvement outlined above is not sufficient to meet the family's needs
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Other agencies involved			
Agency	Contact Details	Date	Detail of involvement

Early Help- Peterborough

- ▶ Helpline Telephone number:
01733 863649
- ▶ Email:
Earlyhelp@peterborough.gov.uk

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/healthcare/early-help/peterborough-early-help-strategy/>



The screenshot shows the Peterborough City Council website for the Early Help strategy. The page features a navigation menu with 'Residents', 'Business', 'Council', and 'Health and Social Care'. A search bar is present, and the breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Health & Social Care > Early Help > Peterborough Early Help strategy'. The main heading is 'Peterborough Early Help strategy'. A sidebar on the left lists categories under 'YOU ARE IN', including 'Health & Social Care' and 'Early Help'. The 'Early Help' section lists various topics like 'Peterborough Early Help strategy', 'The Early Help approach in Peterborough', 'Families with a range of health problems', 'Attendance or behavioural problems', 'Unemployment and hardship', 'Families affected by domestic abuse', 'Families involved in crime', and 'Children who need help'. The main content area includes social media icons, a 'Print this page' and 'Download PDF' option, and a section titled 'On this page:' with links to 'Our vision', 'Peterborough Early Help Delivery Model', 'Our aims', 'Accessing support', 'Early Help Assessment', and 'Priorities over the next two years'. Below this is an 'Our vision' section with a paragraph of text.

Early Help- Peterborough

Early Help Assessments are initiated on an electronic case management system known as the Early Help Module or EHM. Training is provided for all professionals who might need to complete an Early Help Assessment with a family or contribute to one that another professional has started. Training to access the system is via an on-line “MeLearning” package. To access this professionals should email earlyhelp@peterborough.gov.uk.

Professionals are advised not to delay starting an Early Help Assessment with a family whilst they await training, and should speak to a member of the Early Help Team for advice on how to proceed

What to do if..... a child tells you:

- ▶ Listen
- ▶ Explain
- ▶ Pass on
- ▶ Record
- ▶ Never promise confidentiality (keeping secrets)

Protect the Child

**If the child is in danger or needs
immediate medical help call**

999

Reporting Child Protection Concerns to the Local Authority

If you are concerned that a child may be suffering physical, sexual or emotional abuse or neglect or is at risk of significant harm you should telephone Children Services using one of the following numbers:

- ▶ Cambridgeshire children: 0345 045 5203
- ▶ Peterborough children: 01733 864180 or
- ▶ Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team (EDT): 01733 234724

As a professional you can report a safeguarding concern using the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Referral Form. **Email to:** ReferralCentre.Children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

All telephone referrals will need to be followed up in writing within 24 hours by the referring professional

Referral form to Cambridgeshire or Peterborough Children's Social Care

To be used by all agencies that wish to report concerns about a risk
Please send the completed form to ReferralCentre.Children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



If you have a concern regarding a child or young person and would like to discuss it further you should consult the Safeguarding Lead or a Safeguarding Professional within your organisation.

If at any time you have reasonable concern that a child or young person has suffered significant harm or may be at immediate risk of suffering significant harm, telephone 0345 045 5203 (Cambridgeshire) or 01733 864180 (Peterborough) or contact the Police if you feel the child is at imminent risk. You should then complete this form to confirm your referral within 24 hours of your telephone call.



Section A: The Child or Young Person being Referred (If you are referring more than one child, please complete this for one of the children in detail)

Family Name:		First Name(s):	
D.O.B (or expected date of delivery):		Gender:	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Unborn <input type="checkbox"/> Identifies as trans-gender
Unique Pupil Number (Education)		NHS Number:	
Home Address:		Postcode:	
		Telephone:	
Current Address (if different from above):		Postcode:	
		Telephone:	

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Referral Form v3 May 2020

The Joint Safeguarding Referral form and related guidance are available here:

<http://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board/reporting-concerns/>

Why should you share your concerns?



- ▶ Trust your Professional Instincts
- ▶ A child's safety and life may be at risk
- ▶ Always share your concerns and seek advice
- ▶ Record your concerns
- ▶ It is your responsibility – Don't think 'what if I am wrong?' Think **'What if I am Right?'**

Making a Child Protection Referral

Include as much information as possible. The quality of a referral significantly impacts on how effectively Children Social Care is able to respond to safeguarding.

With poor information, Children Social Care is unable to make appropriate and proportionate decisions. This can put a child or young person at risk **OR** lead to overly intrusive interventions which are disruptive to the child and/or family

What Makes a Good Referral?

A Good Referral

- Is typed electronically
- Uses clear, simple language
- Provides detail, such as:
 - telephone numbers
 - previous assessments
 - father's name of an unborn child
- Provides context
- Is accurate and evidence-based
- Includes specific details and times
- Has spoken to the child (and parents where appropriate)
- Provides specific information relevant to the agency doing the referral, for example: School attendance, Health visits
- Referral form is submitted to Childrens Social Care as soon as a disclosure or incident occurs e.g. in the morning
- Completes all appropriate sections in the referral form

A Poor Referral

- Handwriting is difficult to read, poor spelling
- Uses jargon or acronyms
- Very short with no detail -It is not clear if the concern is in the past or present.
- No contact details means Childrens Social Care has to chase for information
- Does not provide context –for example how often has this happened?
- It's not clear who / what / where, and encourages assumptions
- It is not clear what action the agency has taken or what their concerns are
- The referral is delayed, meaning opportunities to speak to the child or collect evidence are lost
- Leaves gaps

Escalation

If you do not agree with a decision about how a safeguarding concern is being handled or how an agency is working with a child / young person you must speak up.

Resolving Professional Differences

<http://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Resolving-Professional-Differences-final.pdf>



Resolving Professional Differences
(Escalation Policy)

Approved: LSCB May 2018

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training

You can find out more about the training the SCPB has on offer here:
<http://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/availabletraining/>



Our website is now in 104 languages

- ▶ www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/
- ▶ Just click on the translate button
- ▶ Lots of information, leaflets and guidance for professionals and parents/ carer's and young people

