

# Indicators of Support and Safeguarding Needs In Salford

A guide for practitioners



The Bridge Partnership can be contacted by telephone on 0161 603 4500 from 8.30am to 4.30pm. If you need to speak to somebody about your referral of concern outside these hours, please call the Emergency Duty Team on 0161 794 8888.

**Indicators of Support and Safeguarding for children and young people**  
*not to be used as an exhaustive list*

Getting Advice (Universal Services)	Getting Help (Early Help)	Getting More Help (Targeted help and support)	Getting Risk Support (Child Protection or Specialist Services)
<b>Health needs of children and young people</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health needs met via universal services</li> <li>- Appropriate weight / height</li> <li>- Accessing GP and other health care at time of illness</li> <li>- Only rarely missing appointments or medication</li> <li>- Engages with public health screening measures including developmental monitoring, growth monitoring, vision/hearing screening, neonatal blood screens</li> <li>- Engages/up to date with health protection measures, such as immunisations and regular dental care</li> <li>- Pre-natal health needs being met</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developmental delay in one or more areas, such as speech and language and motor skills.</li> <li>- Additional health needs.</li> <li>- Occasionally missing health checks/ appointments or not giving recommended medication.</li> <li>- Persistent minor health problems.</li> <li>- Babies with low birth weight due to prematurity/ medical causes/ faltering growth/ poor feeding.</li> <li>- Disability requiring support services.</li> <li>- Inconsistent use of recommended aids and adaptations related to child's developmental progress, including independence skills (e.g. splints, mobility aids, eye patching and hearing aids).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Child has chronic, severe health problems or high-level disability</li> <li>- Medication often not taken regularly and/or child not brought to health appointments, leading to potentially worsened health, development or discomfort.</li> <li>- Limited use of recommended aids and adaptations leading to occasional pain, possible further impairment of the child's developmental progress and/or independence skills (e.g. splints, mobility aids, eye patching and hearing aids).</li> <li>- Poor or restricted diet despite intervention/ dental decay/poor hygiene.</li> <li>- Attendance at school or learning significantly affected by health problems.</li> <li>- Very unhealthy weight/morbid obesity BMI +3.33 SD above the mean in the context of limited or no parental engagement with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consistently failing to reach their developmental milestones quite possibly because of their parent's ability to care for them.</li> <li>- Growth falling 2 centile ranges or more, without an apparent health problem.</li> <li>- Medication very often not given and/or child not brought to health appointments leading to actual or potentially dangerous health outcomes including pain, developmental impairment, hospital admission or death.</li> <li>- Not using recommended aids and adaptations which is leading to frequent pain, further impairment of the child's developmental progress and/or independence skills (e.g. splints, mobility aids, eye patching and hearing aids).</li> <li>- Extremely unhealthy weight/ extreme obesity - BMI greater than +4 SD above the mean</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emotional health and wellbeing needs being met</li> <li>- Accessing health support and advice appropriately, accepts health advice when treatment is not required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emerging signs of deteriorating mental health of child including low level self-harm.</li> <li>- Not registered with a GP/dentist.</li> <li>- Parent recurrently seeking health support/advice that the child may not need (Perplexing Presentation)</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">weight management or other related support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health issues secondary to unhealthy weight in the context of limited or no parental engagement with weight management or other related support.</li> <li>- Underweight/ faltering growth enuresis/encopresis/.</li> <li>- Frequent/Multiple GP's, out of hours, A&amp;E attendance causing concern including accidental injury, accidental burns in under 3 year olds, accidental substance ingestion in young child, unexplained injury or delay in seeking medical attention.</li> <li>- Mental health issues emerging e.g. conduct disorder; ADHD; anxiety; depression; eating disorder; self-harming (including early suicidal thoughts).</li> <li>- Parent recurrently seeking health support and/or treatment from one or more health professionals that the child may not need (Perplexing Presentation or FII)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Very or extremely unhealthy weight in the context of poor parental engagement in weight management support</li> <li>- Experiencing chronic ill health or diagnosed with a life-limiting illness.</li> <li>- Mental health is deteriorating and there is failure to engage with services/ self-harming.</li> <li>- Worries re sexualised behaviour.</li> <li>- Risk of sexual exploitation</li> <li>- Problematic substance misuse</li> <li>- Failure to access medical attention</li> <li>- Concerns about diet/ hygiene/ clothing.</li> <li>- Pregnancy of a child under 16 years old/ concerns about parenting capacity</li> <li>- Mental health needs resulting in high-risk self-harming behaviours, suicidal ideation and inpatient admissions</li> <li>- Child receiving treatment instigated by parent from multiple health professionals that is causing harm (FII).</li> </ul>
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Getting Advice (Universal Services)	Getting Help (Early Help)	Getting More Help (Targeted help and support)	Getting Risk Support (Child Protection or Specialist Services)
<b>Educational needs of children and young people</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Good attendance at education provision – 90% or above</b></li> <li>- Achieving key stages and targets</li> <li>- Positive link between school and home</li> <li>- Access to learning provision i.e. books, activities and age appropriate play</li> <li>- No barriers to learning</li> <li>- Age-appropriate communication</li> <li>- Home educated children accessing services with no safeguarding concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>At risk of becoming persistently absent (90% or below)</b></li> <li>- Is regularly late for school/occasional truanting or significant non-attendance/parents condone absences.</li> <li>- Dysregulated behaviour leading to a risk of suspension/exclusion.</li> <li>- Experiences frequent moves between schools.</li> <li>- Not reaching educational potential or reaching expected levels of attainment.</li> <li>- Needs some additional support in school.</li> <li>- Identified language and communication difficulties.</li> <li>- Child subject to an offsite direction/ alternative provision</li> <li>- Child subject to reduced timetable</li> <li>- Lack of support from home to access education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Severely Absent (50% or below)</b></li> <li>- Child not in education, in conjunction with concerns for child’s safety.</li> <li>- Repeat suspensions from school</li> <li>- Child at risk of Permanent Exclusion</li> <li>- Missing from home</li> <li>- Child Missing Education</li> <li>- Child frequently absconding from school</li> <li>- Identified SEND and may have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).</li> <li>- At risk of CCE/CSE exacerbated either by truanting/suspension or reduced timetable</li> <li>- Issues at home impacting on attendance or engagement in education and parent/carer not engaging in support offered</li> <li>- parents subject to legal action regarding their child’s attendance</li> <li>- Persistent ‘Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Severely Absent (50% or below) and not responding to or engaging with support</b></li> <li>- Educational Neglect IE parent/carer denies their child the right to a full-time appropriate education.</li> <li>- Permanent Exclusions from school</li> <li>- Persistent non engagement in statutory education or training.</li> <li>- At risk of CCE/CSE exacerbated by either by truanting/suspension or reduced timetable</li> <li>- At risk of an Education Supervision Order being applied for</li> <li>- Children not seen/ Avoiding professionals</li> <li>- Home educated child not receiving education and not being seen by outside agencies. Parental non engagement with home education team. Child not leaving the house.</li> </ul>

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	- At risk of CCE/CSE exacerbated by truanting/suspension or reduced timetable		
<b>Getting Advice (Universal Services)</b>	<b>Getting Help (Early Help)</b>	<b>Getting More Help (Targeted help and support)</b>	<b>Getting Risk Support (Child Protection or Specialist Services)</b>
<b>Identity and Emotional Development of children and young people</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appropriate emotional responses</li> <li>- Sexual behaviour appropriate for age and developmental stage.</li> <li>- Able to show empathy</li> <li>- Able to adapt to change</li> <li>- No evidence of challenging behaviours</li> <li>- Positive relationships with trusted adult</li> <li>- Secure friendship groups</li> <li>- Links with and access to appropriate religious or cultural beliefs</li> <li>- Feelings secure and belonging</li> <li>- Ability to express self, including feelings and emotions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Low level mental health or emotional issues requiring intervention.</li> <li>- Is withdrawn/unwilling to engage.</li> <li>- Development is compromised by parenting.</li> <li>- Some concern about substance/ alcohol misuse.</li> <li>- Involved in behaviour that is seen as anti-social.</li> <li>- Poor self-esteem</li> <li>- Child appears to isolate themselves from peer groups/lack of friendship</li> </ul> <p><b>Identity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some insecurities around identity/gender/ sexuality.</li> <li>- Lack of positive role models.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difficulty managing emotions</li> <li>- Physical and emotional development raising significant concerns.</li> <li>- Significant attachment difficulties</li> <li>- Early onset of sexual activity (13/14)</li> <li>- Substance/alcohol misuse</li> <li>- Persistent bullying behaviour.</li> <li>- accessing inappropriate online content or via social media.</li> <li>- Low level offending or ASB.</li> <li>- Lack of age-appropriate activities/ interests</li> <li>- Accessing specialist support regarding gender or sexuality identity</li> </ul> <p><b>Identity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Subject to discrimination.</li> <li>- Significantly low self-esteem.</li> <li>- Extremist views.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unable to access school and peers through extremes of behaviour.</li> <li>- Physical/emotional development raising significant concerns.</li> <li>- Difficulty regulating emotional causing significant harm to themselves or others</li> <li>- Sexual activity (below the age of 13).</li> <li>- Offending/prosecution for offences.</li> <li>- MFH</li> <li>- Child witnesses domestic abuse regularly and may be forced to collude in this.</li> <li>- Subject to persistent discrimination.</li> <li>- Is socially isolated and lacks appropriate role models.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May experience bullying around perceived difference/ bully others.</li> <li>- Concerns around online identity.</li> </ul>		
<b>Getting Advice (Universal Services)</b>	<b>Getting Help (Early Help)</b>	<b>Getting More Help (Targeted help and support)</b>	<b>Getting Risk Support (Child Protection or Specialist Services)</b>
<b>Relationships, environmental factors and boundaries at home</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Physical needs are met, including; food , drink, clothing, health care, shelter.</li> <li>- Care giver able to keep child safe and free from danger</li> <li>- Good sense of 'family' outside of smaller family unit.</li> <li>- Secure housing, employment &amp; finance</li> <li>- Accommodation has basic amenities/ appropriate facilities.</li> <li>- Appropriate levels of hygiene/cleanliness are maintained.</li> <li>- Families affected by low income or unemployment.</li> <li>- Appropriate access to universal and community resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Care not consistently provided</li> <li>- Parents/carers find some initial difficulty in applying key parenting messages.</li> <li>- Parents struggle without support e.g. as a result of mental health/ learning disabilities.</li> <li>- Parent or carer may be experiencing parenting difficulties due to mental or physical health difficulties/post-natal depression.</li> <li>- Some exposure to dangerous situations in home/ community.</li> <li>- Teenage parents /young, inexperienced parents.</li> <li>- Inappropriate expectations of child/young person for age/ability. Child or young person's relationship with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Child has several/ Inconsistent carers, using inconsistent parenting messages.</li> <li>- Parent and carers struggling to provide adequate care.</li> <li>- Teenage parent(s).</li> <li>- Either or both previously looked after and need extra support</li> <li>- Incidents of domestic abuse including controlling and coercive behaviour.</li> <li>- Parental involvement in crime.</li> <li>- Evidence of problematic substance misuse (including alcohol).</li> <li>- Child is a young carer with significant caring responsibilities.</li> <li>- Domestic abuse, coercion or control in the home moderate risk</li> <li>- Overcrowding, temporary accommodation, homelessness (including at risk 16/17-year-olds), including sofa-surfing, unemployment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parent/carer is struggling and is unable to provide consistent care.</li> <li>- There has been a previous unexpected or unexplained death of a child</li> <li>- child has suffered from any type of abuse in parents' care</li> <li>- Parents learning disability or substance misuse</li> <li>- Level of supervision does not provide sufficient protection for a child. Private fostering/young carer.</li> <li>- cautions/convictions for offences against children.</li> <li>- domestic abuse/ potential honour-based violence/forced marriage.</li> <li>- Parental involvement in crime.</li> <li>- A parent or other adult in the household/or regular visitor has</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parent has 'good enough' understanding of child ages/stages and/or access to universal parenting messages.</li> </ul>	<p>family members/carers not always stable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Experienced loss of loved one</li> <li>- Emerging evidence of controlling/coercive behaviour</li> </ul> <p>Child is a young carer with some caring responsibilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inconsistent parenting but development not significantly impaired.</li> <li>- Post-natal depression affecting parenting ability to show emotional warmth.</li> <li>- Child / young person perceived to be a problem by parents or carers/experiencing criticism and a lack of warmth.</li> <li>- May have a number of different carers.</li> <li>- Parent/carer offers inconsistent boundaries. e.g. not providing good guidance about inappropriate relationships formed, such as via the internet.</li> <li>- Can behave in an anti-social way.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Serious debts/poverty including risk of eviction</li> <li>- Child often scapegoated.</li> <li>- Child is rarely comforted when distressed.</li> <li>- Receives inconsistent care from parents and adults</li> <li>- Has no other positive relationships.</li> <li>- Guidance, boundaries, and stimulation is poor</li> <li>- Few age-appropriate toys in the house.</li> <li>- Parent rarely referees disputes between siblings.</li> <li>- Inconsistent parenting impairing emotional or behavioural development.</li> </ul>	<p>been identified as presenting a risk to children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parents or carers persistently avoid contact/do not engage with childcare professionals</li> <li>- Persistent domestic abuse</li> <li>- Child/young person has multiple carers but no significant relationship to any of them/ receives inconsistent care.</li> <li>- Child/young person receives little stimulation/ negligible interaction.</li> <li>- Child/young person is under significant pressure to achieve/aspire/experiencing high criticism.</li> <li>- Parents struggle to set boundaries/act as good role models and appropriately share emotions</li> <li>- Child or young person's behaviour is regularly beyond control of parent or carer.</li> <li>- Parenting impairing emotional or appropriate behavioural development of child / young person/17 year old (including sofa surfing).</li> <li>- Chronic unemployment due to significant lack of basic skills or long-standing issues such as substance misuse/offending, etc.</li> </ul>
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Getting Advice (Universal Services)	Getting Help (Early Help)	Getting More Help (Targeted help and support)	Getting Risk Support (Child Protection or Specialist Services)
<b>Relationships outside the family home</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evidence of attachments with family and care givers</li> <li>- Appropriate sibling relationships</li> <li>- Appropriate relationships with peers</li> <li>- Ability for form and sustain friendships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some support from family and friends.</li> <li>- Some difficulties sustaining relationships.</li> <li>- Undertaking some caring responsibilities.</li> <li>- Child of a teenage parent.</li> <li>- Low parental aspirations.</li> <li>- Some concerns highlighted in relation to child sexual and/or criminal exploitation, such as increased use of social media, unknown profiles / persons in contact with the child.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Peers also involved in challenging behaviour.</li> <li>- Regularly needed to care for another family member.</li> <li>- Involved in conflicts with peers/siblings.</li> <li>- Adoptive family under severe stress.</li> <li>- Child is vulnerable to being sexually and/ or criminally exploited through contact with others who pose a risk of harm, increased MFH episodes, change in emotionally and mental wellbeing, being exposed to alcohol/drugs, criminality, and gang culture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Peers also involved in challenging behaviour.</li> <li>- Regularly needed to care for another family member.</li> <li>- Involved in conflicts with peers/siblings.</li> <li>- Adoptive family under severe stress.</li> <li>- Child is subject to sexual and / or criminal exploitation through evidence-based practice or disclosure. Prolonged MFH episodes / CME, multiple mobile phones, county lines, deterioration in mental health, access to weapons.</li> </ul>
Getting Advice (Universal Services)	Getting Help (Early Help)	Getting More Help (Targeted help and support)	Getting Risk Support (Child Protection or Specialist Services)
<b>Housing</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some disrepair issues</li> <li>- Struggling to pay rent</li> <li>- Inappropriate sleeping arrangement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Anti-social behaviour / neighbourhood complaints</li> <li>- Lack of facilities</li> <li>- Falling into rent arrears</li> <li>- Aids / adaptations required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inadequate / unsafe sleeping arrangements</li> <li>- Urgent need of essential maintenance</li> <li>- Rent arrears not being addressed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concerns around domestic abuse, violence, or exploitation</li> <li>- Homeless &amp; destitute</li> <li>- Neglectful homes conditions</li> <li>- 16 &amp; 17 years homeless</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Lack of space for play or for learning</li><li>- Decoration or facilities issues</li><li>- Evidence of mould and damp</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Disrepair issues</li><li>- Evidence of mould and damp</li><li>- Statutory overcrowding (too many people legally accepted to occupy a property)</li><li>- Action from landlord on tenancy (at risk of homelessness)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Unable to meet child's/family's needs</li><li>- Threatened with homelessness</li><li>- Domestic abuse / threatened with violence</li><li>- Exploitation concerns</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Unaccompanied Minors</li><li>- Unsafe sleeping arrangements</li><li>- Significant rent arrears accrued</li><li>- Inadequate heating and facilities</li><li>- Dangerous disrepair issues in property</li></ul>
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