

For a child to grow and develop well, their physical, emotional, safety and developmental care has to be provided for.

If on an on-going basis a child doesn't have these needs met, then the child's immediate and long-term health, learning and emotional development may be negatively impacted.

The impact of not having some or all of these needs met may not always be obvious, or it may only become more noticeable as the child gets older.

If you are working with a child and have some concerns about a child's wellbeing, you might want to consider if the family needs support or advice.

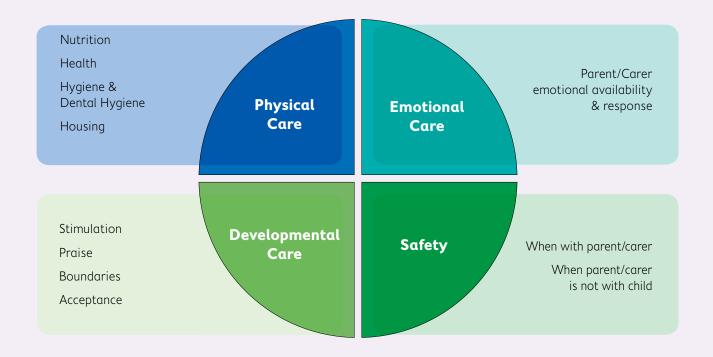
Although you may only see a child for a brief or infrequent period, if there is something which concerns you, use this tool to help clarify your concerns, consider what support or advice you can offer, and how you will monitor and review this.

How to use this e-tool:

You can use this tool to support your conversations with a parent/carer to help explain what you've noticed, talk through what might be needed to ensure the child's needs are met and how to support this happening. Use the tick boxes to record areas of concern; further information about the area of need can be seen by clicking on the 'i'; (or read Guidance notes overleaf).

Complete the notes section on the second page and save a copy of this e-tool in line with your data storage policies. **If you need to print a paper copy, click here.**

This tool does not replace the need to use the Graded Care Profile2*.



Thinking about the aspects of the child's care and wellbeing you have concerns about - consider what you can do to offer advice or support.

Save a copy of this record on the child's file in line with your safeguarding and data storage policies.

As a professional already working with a child and family, consider how your advice or support might help? And/or is there another service or organisation within the locality which could also help with advice or support?

If you still have concerns speak with your supervisor or safeguarding lead - use this record to illustrate what impact your interventions have had, what's worked and what still needs to improve.

If you are worried and think that the child may need safeguarding from harm you can call the Croydon Single Point Of Contact (SPOC) Consultation Line

A nursery worker or childminder

For example:

seeing a child regularly tired –
might talk about suitable home
play or routines for a child

A dentist noticing infrequent check-ups may offer tailored support to help improve the frequency of check-ups

A volunteer home support worker noticing how much time is spent between a parent and child may talk about how a parent organises their time to be with their child For example:

Can you help direct the parent/ carer to locally available support – such as at a Children's Centre, food bank, benefits advice, parent group, nutrition and wellbeing etc?

For more details on locality based early help services go to: Locality Early Help service information

This service is available to all professionals in Croydon. Consider if you have done all you should reasonably have done to help promote the wellbeing of the child. If there are still ongoing concerns, contact the consultation line to support you in your decision making and next steps.

To speak to the Croydon SPOC Consultation Line call **0208 726 6464**

Child's Name:

Parent/Carer's name:

Home address:

Your name:

Your role:

Date of completion:

Record here what action you've taken, how you will review any changes and next steps:

Guidance notes

Physical Care

Nutrition: There is adequate quantity and quality of food, and the child isn't over/under weight.

Health: Parent/carer is attentive to health and medical needs – includes issues of missed appointments, lack of use of medicine, hearing.

Hygiene/Dental Hygiene: There is a level of care appropriate to age: consider clothing, un/kempt, complexion, hair, cleanliness, smells. Their dental hygiene is evident through appointments and appearance. Clothing: Appropriateness for weather and age, fit and condition. Housing: Basic home utilities, sleeping arrangements, cleanliness, clutter, maintenance.

Emotional Care

Parent/Carer emotional availability & response: Is parent/carer able to pick up on a child's verbal and non-verbal cues and respond and engage appropriately.

Safety

Safety when parent/carer present and when not with parent/carer:

Parent/carer is alert and aware of potential safety hazards, both when the child is with them or elsewhere. This includes: online safety, street safety, traffic safety and safety at home and is appropriate to the child's age.

Developmental Care

Stimulation: Do the parents/carers engage with and provide age appropriate educational, social and play opportunities.

Praise: Do the parents/carers give praise or emotional rewards to child, or do they show indifference to child's achievements or show dismissiveness or even belittle the child.

Boundaries: - are boundaries mild and consistent and appropriate to age or are disapproval measures are occasionally abrupt or disapproval measures are harsh, cruel or physical punishment used.

Acceptance: parent/carer shows unconditional support, or is inconsistent in accepting child's difficulties or rejecting or belittling of child if they make mistakes.