

# SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PREVENTING RADICALISATION

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Homerton Childrens Centre

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## WHY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IS IMPORTANT

- Safeguarding means protecting children from abuse and maltreatment; preventing harm to children's health or development; ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care.
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC 1989) identifies that children have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated whether physically or mentally.

# UK LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

Children Act  
1989, 2004 and  
subsequent  
amendments

Sexual  
Offences Act  
2003

Modern  
Slavery Act  
2015

What to do if  
you're worried  
a child is being  
abused  
2015

Working  
Together  
to Safeguard  
Children  
2018

Female Genital  
Mutilation Act  
2003

National  
Service Framework  
for Children, Young  
People and  
Maternity Services  
2004

Counter-Terrorism  
and Security Act  
2015

Children and  
Social Work Act  
2017

# RISK FACTORS FOR CHILD MALTREATMENT

- Child maltreatment occurs across all socio-economic, religious, cultural, racial, and ethnic groups
- Risk factors in child/young person
- Risk factors in parents
- Risk factors in family
- Risk factors in environment



## EFFECTS OF MALTREATMENT

- **Impact of any maltreatment will vary depending on the:**
  - Nature of the maltreatment
  - Duration of the maltreatment
  - Age of the child
  - Individual child's reaction to the maltreatment
  - Home/family environment
  - Impact and speed of any intervention
  - Consequences of the intervention
  - Professional response and support
- **Long-term effects of child maltreatment can be:**
  - Drug and alcohol misuse
  - Poor mental health
  - Promiscuity and teen pregnancy
  - Risk of perpetrating or being a victim of domestic violence
  - Difficulty with job performance
  - Self-harm or suicidal ideation
  - Personality disorder
  - Relationship problems

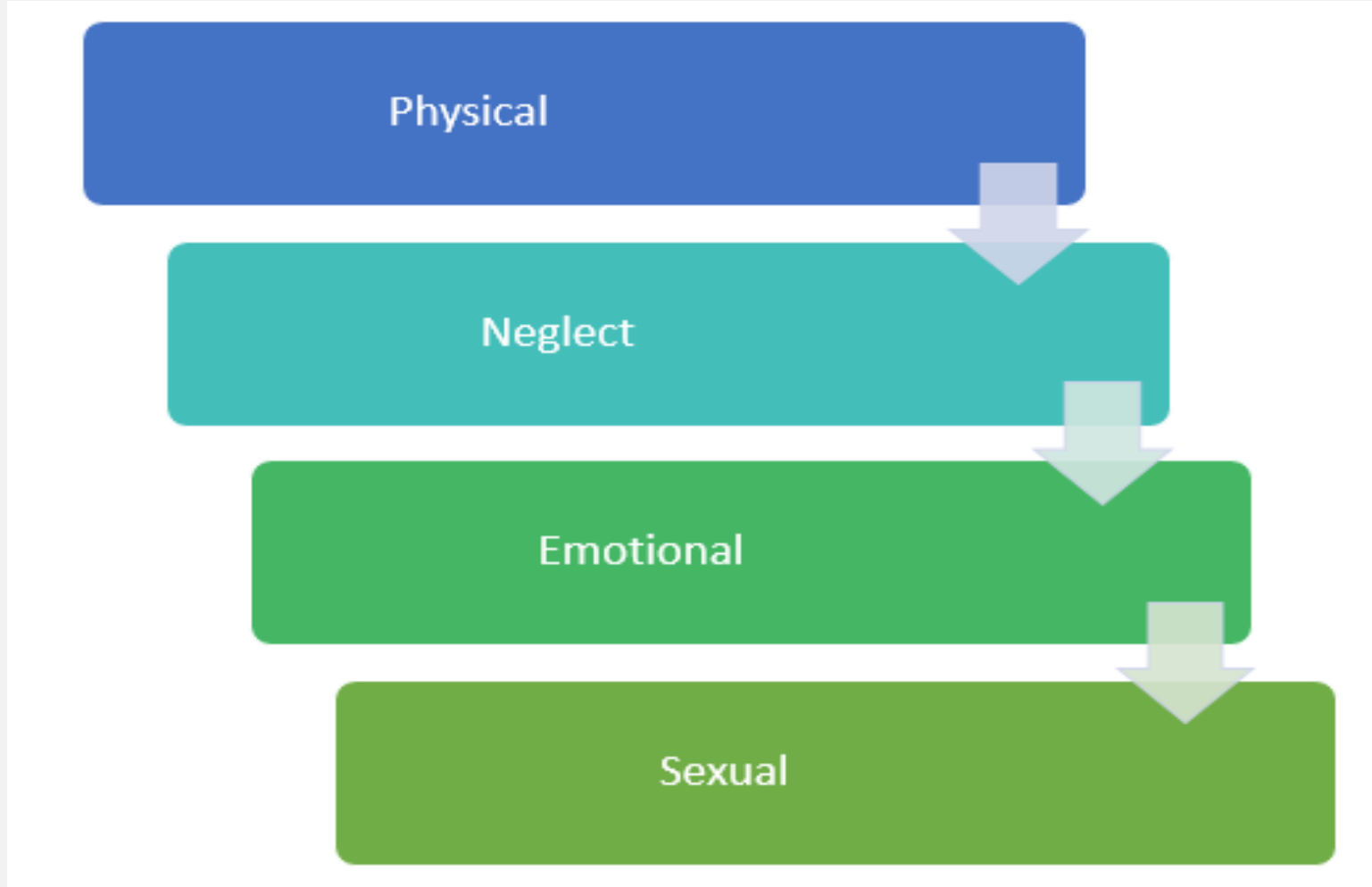
# CATEGORIES OF CHILD ABUSE

Physical

Neglect

Emotional

Sexual





# PHYSICAL ABUSE

- NSPCC - 1 in 14 children have been physically abused
- Chronic physical abuse, or a single episode of severe physical abuse can result in long-term physical disabilities, brain damage, hearing loss or eye damage, and death
- Child's explanation (where this is possible) and the parent or carer's explanation for the injury may not match
- Parent's explanation may not fit with the injury seen, seem very vague, or change every time they are asked about the injury.
- Child may have been 'trained' to echo the parent's explanation
- Bruising - especially in areas that are not usually injured
- Cuts and scratches - especially in areas that are not usually injured
- Bite marks
- Burns and scalds
- Broken bones - without a good explanation
- Shaken babies (abusive head trauma) - causes bleeding into the brain so baby may be unconscious or fitting
- Subtle signs : child may be fearful, shy away from touch, be reluctant to change clothes or appear to be afraid to go home



# NEGLECT

- 15% of young people had been neglected at some point in their childhoods
- Provide adequate food, clothing, and shelter Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate caregivers)
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment
- Neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs
- Ill-fitting, dirty clothes and shoes
- Not dressed warmly enough in cold weather
- Appearing very dirty, with matted and unwashed hair or smelling bad
- Untreated or delayed treatment for illnesses and physical injuries
- Unsupervised young children playing outside
- Left alone at home
- Frequently late for school
- Troublesome, disruptive behaviour, or withdrawn and passive

# EMOTIONAL ABUSE

- 7% of children in the UK experience frequent and severe emotional maltreatment during childhood
- can cause severe, long-term harm to a child's intellectual and emotional development.
- Clues -Is the child the 'wrong' gender, born at a time of parental separation or violence, or seen as 'ill' or 'difficult'? Is the parent/carer overprotective? Bullying by parent/carer, online or school ?
- Babies - Apathetic, delayed development, non-demanding.
- Toddlers and pre-school children- Violent, clingy, apathetic.
- School children- Wetting, soiling, relationship difficulties, non-attendance, anti-social behaviour
- Young people - Self-harm, substance misuse, depression, oppositional, aggressive and delinquent behaviour.

# SEXUAL ABUSE

- 5% -10% of girls and 1% to 5% of boys are exposed to penetrative sexual abuse
- Child sex abusers can come from any professional, racial or religious background, people in position of trust, and can be male or female.
- can involve violent, humiliating and degrading sexual assaults
- Sexual exploitation - persuaded or forced into exchanging sexual activity for money, drugs, gifts, affection or status.
- Grooming, online exploitation
- Trafficking for sexual exploitation
- Becomes anxious about going to a particular place or seeing a particular person
- Suddenly starts having behaviour problems like aggression
- Suddenly starts having extreme mood swings such as brooding, crying or fearfulness
- Has a sudden deterioration in school results
- Displays unexpectedly explicit sexual knowledge for their age
- Starts wetting the bed again, having previously been dry by night

# YOUR ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING

- **Suspicion of child maltreatment - refer immediately to children social services/ police/ NSPCC/ safeguarding team CCG**
- Consider the safety of other children living with or in contact with the presumed perpetrator
- Information sharing – share concerns with designated safeguarding lead/senior colleague, children social services/police.
- Consent- parent/carer or child/young person before referral, unless increased risk of harm to child/young person
- Document all your concerns, details of any action taken, information shared and decisions you have made
- Multi agency approach

# YOUR ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING

Children's social care

Police

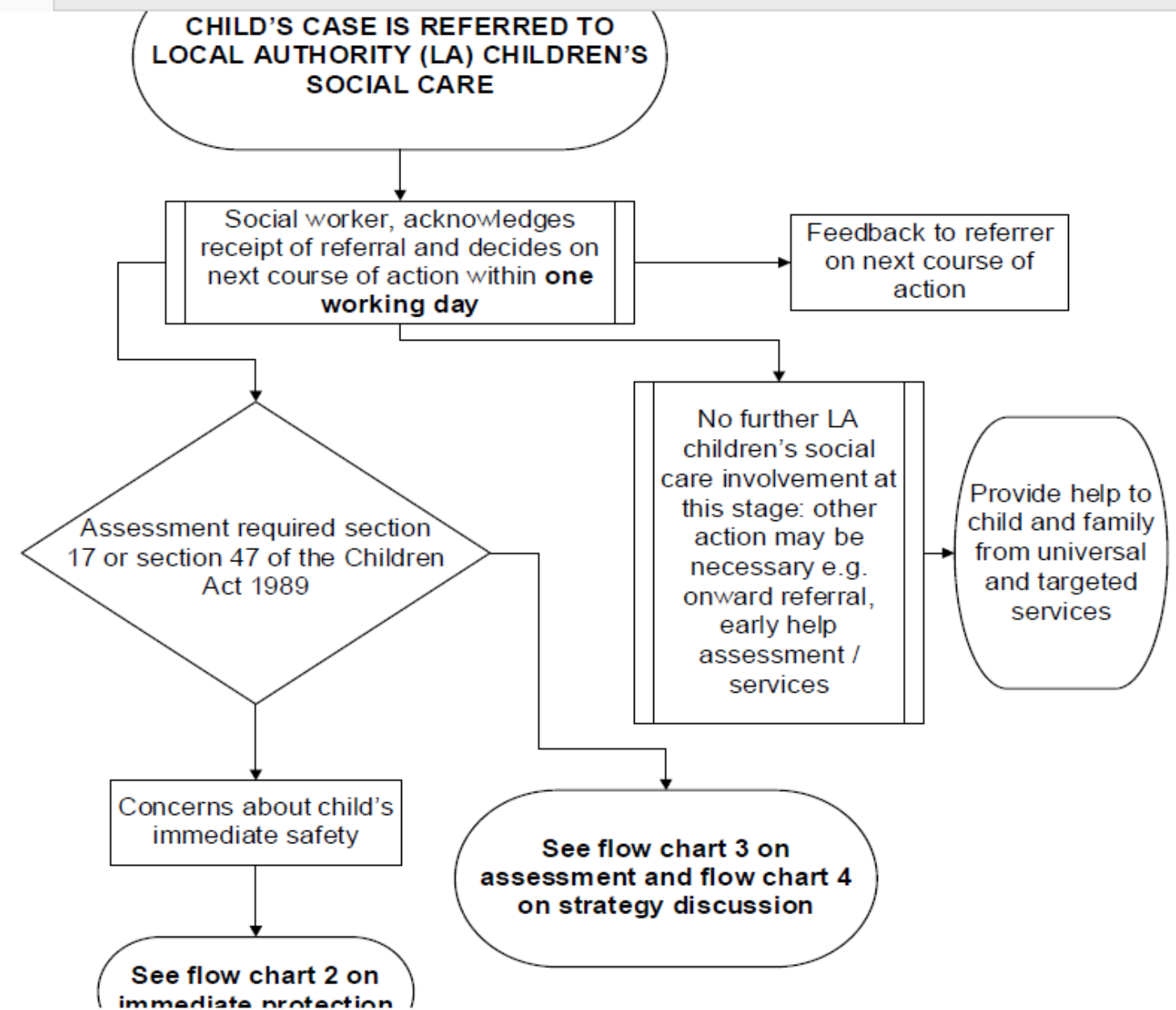
Health visitor/  
school nurse

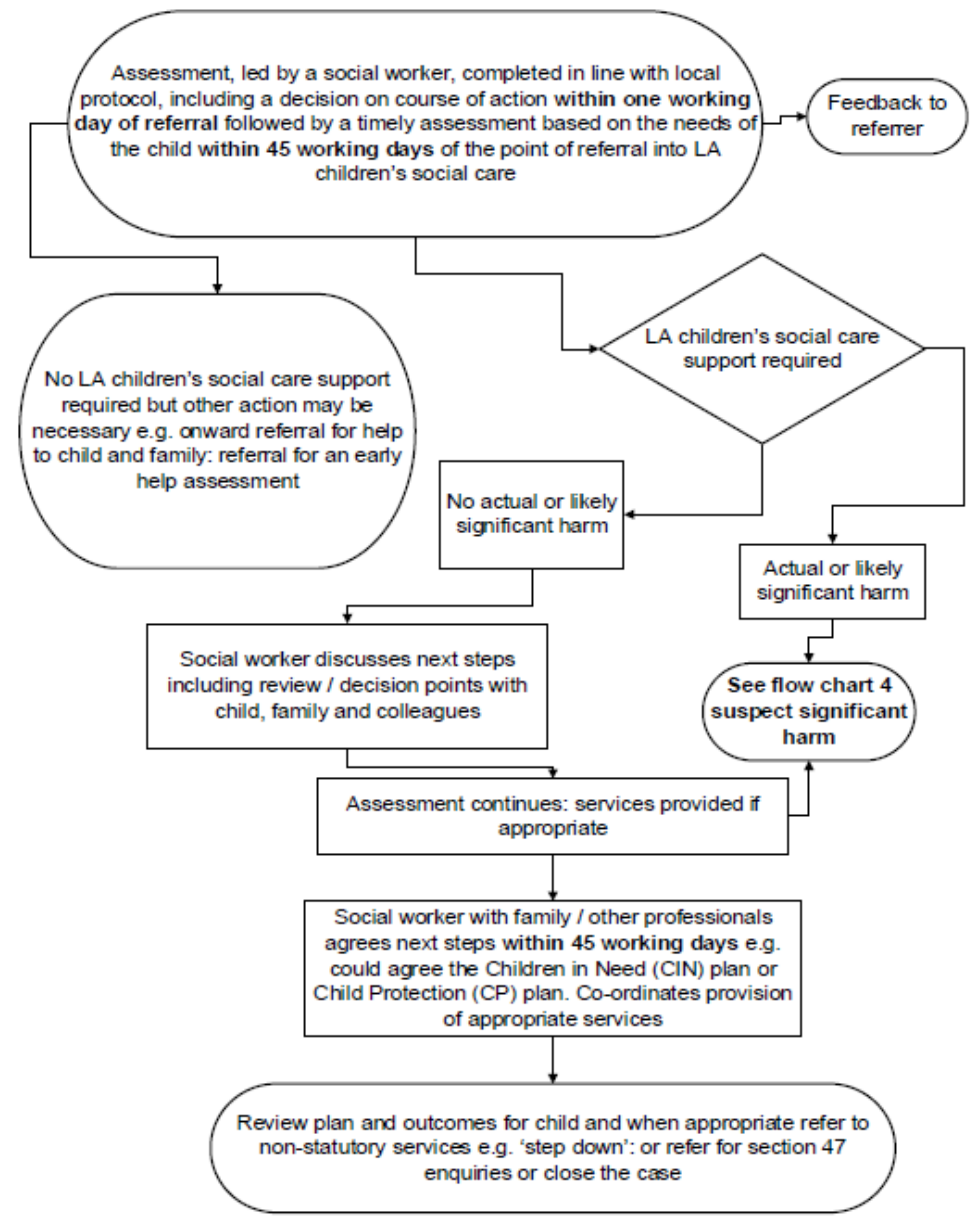
School/  
Nursery teacher

Paediatrician

GP

Others





## Early Years and Childcare

14. Early years providers have a duty under section 40 of the Childcare Act 2006 to comply with the welfare requirements of the early years foundation stage (EYFS)<sup>46</sup>. Early years providers must ensure that:

- they are alert to any issues of concern in the child's life
- they have and implement a policy and procedures to safeguard children. This must include an explanation of the action to be taken when there are safeguarding concerns about a child and in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff. The policy must also cover the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting, that staff complete safeguarding training that enables them to understand their safeguarding policy and procedures, have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues, and recognise signs of potential abuse and neglect
- they have a practitioner who is designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding children within each early years setting and who must liaise with local statutory children's services as appropriate. This lead must also complete child protection training



## YOUR ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING AS GOVERNORS

- To ensure policies are fit for purpose and are followed
- To ensure staff have regular training
- To promote a culture where safeguarding is recognised as a key priority

## REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/individuals-referred-to-and-supported-through-the-prevent-programme-april-2020-to-march-2021>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice>
- <https://populationwellbeingportal.e-lfh.org.uk/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-service-framework-children-young-people-and-maternity-services>
- <https://cks.nice.org.uk/child-maltreatment-recognition-and-management>

THANK YOU