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**North East Lincolnshire Neglect Toolkit**

**Quick Guide**

Neglect is one of the most complex areas of child abuse and it can have a devasting effect on children’s lives. It is so important to address neglect as soon as signs are recognised as we know this improves a child/ young person’s outcomes significantly.

**Antenatal Neglect Screening Tool**

[NEL-Antenatal-Neglect-Screening-Tool.docx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fsafernel.co.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F06%2FNEL-Antenatal-Neglect-Screening-Tool.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

**Neglect Screening Tool**

[NEL-Neglect-Screening-Tool-1.docx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fsafernel.co.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F06%2FNEL-Neglect-Screening-Tool-1.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

**Screening Tools**

The screening tools are available to **all** agencies in North East Lincolnshire. You do not require any specific training to complete it though SCP neglect training is recommended and available via:

[North East Lincolnshire Council Children and Families Learning Zone (academy-nel.com)](https://academy-nel.com/childrenslearningzone/)

**Remember**- Identifying neglect is everyone's responsibility!!

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| **When should the screening tool be used?** | |
| The screening tool should be completed by anyone who is concerned about a child that may have **unmet needs** and can be used throughout a child and family’s journey for both new/ emerging concerns and open cases,  *Open cases include- Early Support/ Team Around the Family (TAF), Child In Need (CIN), Child Protection (CP)*  Neglectful care is complex and the screening tool aims to inform your thoughts and planning going forward. It is likely that further indicators will emerge as you use the tool.  This can be completed individually, during a supervision session or collectively with another agency but **must** inform your multi agency meetings and support planning.  **Consider** **worries that feature:**   * substance misuse * behaviour concerns * domestic abuse | **Common neglect indicators:**   * home conditions * missed appointments * poor school attendance * appearance (including poor dental health)   **Think about**:   * What does this mean for that child? * What is the current and immediate impact? * What are the longer-term implications if nothing changes?     The impact of persistent neglect on a child's present and future wellbeing can be significant and affects children of different ages differently. Long term impacts may affect brain development, physical development, health, behaviour and relationships. |

**What about informing the family?**

It is fundamental that child/ren receive the right service at the right time with the right level of support. We need to be open and honest with the child/ren and caregivers throughout. The screening tool can be completed with the caregiver however, if this is not possible this does not prevent you from completing it to inform your analysis of the situation and inform next steps

**REMEMBER**- Caregivers need to have the capacity to see neglectful care from the child’s point of view and realistically weigh up what might need to change for the child to thrive in their care.

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| **Next Steps?** | |
| **Following completion, you may want to discuss findings with your safeguarding lead and/or consider:**   1. **Practitioners working with children/ case holders-** Where you have concerns for neglect, and these do not meet the indicators for significant harm then the first step is to talk to the family about your worries and start the team around the family process which involves the completion of an early help assessment and the bringing together of the wider network of support. The screening tool will inform the SMART objectives on the assessment. 2. **Staff who don’t case hold or ordinarily work with children-** discuss findings with your safeguarding lead within your organisation and consider any mini tools in the toolkit to help judgement. Eg clutter rating scaling in the home | |
| **Helping, Supporting and Protecting**  **Children and Families in North East**  **Lincolnshire** | [Threshold-Document-1.pdf (safernel.co.uk)](https://www.safernel.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Threshold-Document-1.pdf) |
| **Early Help Team around the Family** | [SaferNEL | Prevention and early help - SaferNEL](https://safernel.co.uk/family-parent-and-carer-support/prevention-and-early-help/) |
| **Targeted Family Help request** (All early help assessments requesting parenting, 1-1 work, group programmes or young carer requests.) | [Familyhelprequests@nelincs.gov.uk](mailto:Familyhelprequests@nelincs.gov.uk) |
| **For any immediate safeguarding concerns** | Integrated Front door on 01472 326292 Option 2 Option 2. |
| **For advice/guidance where there is still uncertainty around threshold/level of need** | Integrated Front Door 01472 326292 Option 2 Option 2 |

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| **Neglect Toolkit and Guidance** | |
| The toolkit should be used alongside existing service assessments such as: | |
| **SCP Procedures** | [Neglect](https://nelincsscp.trixonline.co.uk/chapter/neglect) |
| **Early Help Team around the Family** | [SaferNEL | Prevention and early help - SaferNEL](https://www.safernel.co.uk/family-parent-and-carer-support/prevention-and-early-help/) |
| **Assessment and Support** | [Risk-analysis-framework-updated-Sept.-2024-1-3.pdf](https://www.safernel.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Risk-analysis-framework-updated-Sept.-2024-1-3.pdf) |
| The toolkit can be used as part of multi-agency working to help identify and respond to all aspects of neglect within a family and determine what steps need to be taken to support and improve a child’s lived experience.  The mini tools can provide guidance on unmet needs when working with a family such as:  **Includes specific advice about the complexities of neglect including:**   * Risk factors * Deprivation and neglect * Culture * Engagement and building trusted relationships with families * Continuity of neglect and change * Practitioner supervision guide * Setting SMART objectives * Chronology guidance * Types of neglect * Presenting neglectful behaviours * Developmental milestones * Impact of unmet need * Dental neglect * Home environment * Building relationships * Adolescent neglect   [North-East-Lincolnshire-Neglect-Toolkit-v9.docx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fsafernel.co.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F06%2FNorth-East-Lincolnshire-Neglect-Toolkit-v9.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) | |