

Threshold Chart

by Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board



Tier 1 Universal	Tier 2 Children in need of early help	Tier 3 Children in need of targeted or specialist support: LA Children's Services Targeted Early Help	Tier 4 Children at risk of significant harm: LA Children's Services Children's Social Care
<p>The child or young person has no significant additional needs. Needs that do arise can be met by low level interventions within universal services.</p>	<p>The child or young person has low level needs which are not being met by universal services, and so requires some additional early help. An early help assessment and action plan with a lead professional will help identify all areas of need and coordinate a planned response with the child, parents / carers and partners</p>	<p>The child or young person has high level or complex additional needs which require co-ordinated multi-agency support with an early help assessment and action plan; a lead professional; and a team around the family approach. Or it might be a child with safeguarding concerns but no other needs.</p> <p>Needs may meet the threshold as a child in need under section 17 of the Children Act.</p> <p>Children requiring support at tier 3 will usually meet a number of the indicators listed below.</p>	<p>The child or young person has an acute level of unmet and complex need and / or requires urgent intervention to protect against significant harm.</p> <p>A child and family assessment is required under section 47 of the Children Act 1989.</p> <p>Children requiring support at tier 4 will usually meet a number of the indicators listed below.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No referral is required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No referral to LA Children's Services is required. The child's additional needs will be met in your setting. To achieve this, you will need to identify a lead professional within your agency who will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With parental consent, complete an Early Help Assessment and Action Plan, and lead on its implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A referral to LA Children's Services may be required. Contact the First Response Team Professionals' Line 020 7926 3100 or Public Line 020 7926 5555 (24 hours) for advice and guidance If a referral is required, you should seek parental consent for this Complete a Multi-Agency Referral Form indicating a need for support at tier 3 and attaching any previous early help assessments or actions plans. LA Children's Services will assess the referral and determine if a Section 17 assessment is required Children may also benefit from an Education, Health and Care Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> URGENT action is required Contact LA Children's Services First Response Team Professionals' Line 020 7926 3100 or Public Line 020 7926 5555 (24 hours) for advice and guidance If a child is at immediate risk of harm call the police 999 Parental consent is not required for a referral at tier 4. The parent or carer should be notified of the referral unless to do so will place the child or young person at greater risk of harm Complete a Multi-Agency Referral Form indicating a need for support at tier 4 and attaching any previous early help assessments or action plans
Child's/Young Person's Developmental Needs	Child's/Young Person's Developmental Needs	Child's/Young Person's Developmental Needs	Child's/Young Person's Developmental Needs
<p>Abuse and neglect: no physical or material signs of neglect; any injuries within normal range; emotionally warm and stable family environment</p> <p>Learning, education and employment: adequate academic progress; meeting developmental mile-stones</p> <p>Health: healthy, no physical or mental health condition or disability; access to health services; regular physical activity and healthy diet; no history or substance misuse</p> <p>Emotional wellbeing: positive sense of self; emotionally resilient</p> <p>Social development: strong friendships and positive, respectful social interactions</p> <p>Behaviour: age appropriate, legal activities; self-control appropriate to age and development; does not run away from home is absent or go missing; does not have caring responsibilities</p>	<p>Abuse and neglect: occasional signs of neglect; occasionally dirty, unkempt; occasional, less common injury; parenting lacks emotional warmth</p> <p>Learning, education and employment: Underachieving; additional support needed to meet all developmental mile-stones; at risk of becoming NEET</p> <p>Health: physical or mental health condition or disability; missed health checks or immunisations; no physical activity / unhealthy diet impacting on health; early signs that drug or alcohol use is having a negative impact on social well being</p> <p>Emotional wellbeing: poor self-esteem; requires additional emotional support; shows early signs of negative, anti-social or criminal behaviour</p> <p>Social development: limited social interaction; language and communication difficulties; victim or perpetrator of bullying – some support required</p> <p>Behaviour: occasional anti-social behaviour; short lived sympathy for violent / extreme ideology; occasional lack of age appropriate self-control; risk of negative use of internet and social media; occasionally absent, missing from home; occasional caring responsibilities; socially isolated as a result of intolerant views</p>	<p>Abuse and neglect: consistent physical and material signs of neglect; frequent injury; volatile and unstable family environment – emotional neglect increasing vulnerability</p> <p>Learning, education and employment: seriously underachieving despite sustained interventions; targeted support needed to meet developmental milestones; NEET</p> <p>Health: physical or mental health condition or disability significantly affects daily functioning; chronic health problems due to lack of access to services; no physical activity / unhealthy diet seriously impacting on health despite sustained interventions; substance misuse dependency impacts mentally and physically</p> <p>Emotional wellbeing: poor self-esteem / sense of identify impacts on daily outcomes; concern of suicide or self-harm; significant deterioration in behaviour and engagement in risky behaviours; fails to meet developmental milestones due to inability of parent/ carer to provide emotional support; involvement in negative; anti-social or criminal behaviour and at greater risk of being groomed or exploited by others</p> <p>Social development: socially isolated; significant communication difficulties; negative interactions and lack of respect; victim or perpetrator or persistent or severe bullying despite early help interventions</p> <p>Behaviour: anti-social behaviour and risk of gang involvement; has associations/affiliation with negative peer groups involved in offending behaviour (group violent offending, street robbery, use of weapons, drugs offences) expresses support for extremism and violence; regular lack of age appropriate self-control; engaged in or victim of harmful use of internet and social media; negative behaviour associated with extremism; persistently missing or absent from home – concern around extremism related to this; caring responsibilities have negative impact; negative and intolerant interactions with others</p>	<p>Abuse and neglect: extreme physical signs of neglect; material neglect causing significant harm; unaccounted injuries and child disclosure; long term emotional neglect places child at high risk of / involvement in sexual or other exploitation as perpetrator or victim</p> <p>Learning, education and employment: significant delay / impairment to developmental milestones; at risk of significant harm as a result</p> <p>Health: complex physical or mental health condition or disability has significant adverse impact; complex and chronic health problems due to lack of access to services; no physical activity / unhealthy diet seriously impacting on health and placing at risk of significant harm despite sustained interventions; substance misuse dependency places child at significant risk of harm</p> <p>Emotional wellbeing: negative sense of self leads to significant harm; child is exploited and harmed by others as a result; development significantly impaired; self-harming or suicidal; at high risk of CSE</p> <p>Social development: completely isolated; little or no communication skills or positive interaction with others; negative interactions and lack of respect; victim or perpetrator of persistent or severe bullying which places well being at risk</p> <p>Behaviour: involved in persistent, serious criminal activity (group violent offending, weapons use, possession with intent to supply drugs/offences) and known gang involvement; expresses support for extremism and violence; little or no age appropriate self-control places self and others at risk; significant concerns child is at risk of harm due to internet and social media activity; significant concern child is being groomed for involvement in extremist activity; strong links with extremist individuals / groups; child persistently missing or absent with significant concern about sexual exploitation and / or criminal activity; caring responsibilities have significant negative impact with no sign of change. Arrested for a drugs offence outside of London area or stopped and searched out of London in circumstances that may indicate involvement in drugs supply offences at risk of criminal exploitation.</p>

Tier 1 (continued from overleaf)	Tier 2 (continued from overleaf)	Tier 3 (continued from overleaf)	Tier 4 (continued from overleaf)
<p>Environmental Factors</p> <p>Family is integrated into community; finances used appropriately / in best interest of child, even where limited; stable, suitable accommodation; no negative impact from local area</p>	<p>Environmental Factors</p> <p>Family is socially isolated; occasionally short of adequate food, warmth or clothing due to financial mismanagement; unclean accommodation with potential health and safety hazard; anti-social behaviour in local area has negative impact; family has temporary right to remain, impacting on child's well being; indirect links to proscribed organisations</p>	<p>Environmental Factors</p> <p>Family socially excluded – adverse impact on child; regularly short of adequate food, warmth or clothing due to other prioritisation of financial resources; consistently dirty accommodation with health and safety hazards; child victim of anti-social behaviour or crime in local area and at ongoing risk; local area has significant levels of crime and Asb, family at risk of involuntary removal / risk of having limited financial resources increases vulnerability of child to criminal activity; strong links to proscribed organisations</p>	<p>Environmental Factors</p> <p>Family excluded and child severely affected – family deliberately isolates child from support; consistent inability to manage finances leaves child consistently short of food, clothing and warmth; family has no stable home; local area has high levels of crime, ASB, and has a group violent offending /gang problem, has profoundly negative impact on child – child involved in frequent anti-social behaviour and criminal activity and at high risk of involvement in exploitation as victim or perpetrator; family at risk or deportation / child an unaccompanied asylum seeker; child being exposed to / involved in criminal activity as a result of trafficking; child, close family members /friends of proscribed organisations; victim of serious, sustained and escalating acts of bullying</p>
<p>Parental and Family Factors</p> <p>Protection from harm – physical and sexual abuse: child is protected from danger or significant harm, and is not subject to either sexual or physical abuse</p> <p>Neglect: the child's physical and material needs are met</p> <p>Domestic abuse: there is no history or incidents of domestic abuse in the family</p> <p>Perinatal period: take up of ante / post natal care; coping with parenthood and accessing support as required</p> <p>Parenting capacity to promote child's health, learning and education, emotional wellbeing; consistent parenting and emotional warmth</p> <p>Extremism: no evidence of involvement in or support for extremism</p> <p>Drug and alcohol use: no evidence of impact on child or on parenting ability</p> <p>Physical or mental ill health or disability: no adverse impact on child or parenting ability</p> <p>Criminal or anti-social behaviour: no history of criminal activity in family; no family gang involvement</p>	<p>Parental and Family Factors</p> <p>Protection from harm – physical and sexual abuse: evidence of sexual abuse or inappropriate sexual behaviour within wider family network but child is protected from this; child occasionally not protected from accidental harm; physical chastisement within legal limits impacts on child's emotional wellbeing and / or leads to concerns of escalation without intervention; harmful traditional practices are culturally prevalent, but child is protected from these</p> <p>Neglect: occasionally neglectful of the child's physical and material needs, increasing their vulnerability</p> <p>Domestic abuse: parent / carers subject to occasional non-physical abuse; isolated incidents of violence in family, impact mitigated by protective factors</p> <p>Perinatal period: ambivalent to / irregular take up of ante / post natal care; struggles to parent effectively but open to support</p> <p>Limited parenting capacity to promote child's health, learning and education, emotional well being; difficulties in setting boundaries and establishing and maintaining a routine</p> <p>Extremism: Some support for extreme views or ideology, but no evidence of active involvement with extremist organisation</p> <p>Drug and alcohol use occasionally impacts on child</p> <p>Physical or mental ill health or disability of parent / carer / sibling occasionally affects ability to meet child's needs</p> <p>Criminal or anti-social behaviour: history of criminal activity in family; suspicion or some evidence of family gang involvement</p>	<p>Parental and Family Factors</p> <p>Protection from harm – physical and sexual abuse: parent / carer unable to protect family from significant harm; possible inappropriate sexual behaviour from parent / carer; family home previously been used for criminal activity, including prostitution; physical chastisement beyond legal limits; concern child may be subject to harmful traditional practices</p> <p>Neglect: regularly neglectful of child's physical and material needs, impacting on outcomes; and placing at risk of grooming or exploitation</p> <p>Domestic abuse: parent/ carer has previously experienced and occasionally experiences domestic abuse; domestic abuse within the family with limited sign of change or recognition of adverse emotional impact on the child; child shows sign of emotional abuse and behaviours that indicate risk of becoming perpetrator or victim of abuse</p> <p>Perinatal period: does not access ante / post natal care; post natal depression; sustained difficulties in parenting effectively and will not accept support</p> <p>Very limited parenting capacity impacts adversely on child's health, learning and education; child is emotionally neglected and vulnerable to exploitation; significant risk of parent / child relationship breakdown; parent / carer unable to set boundaries; weak or negative family network</p> <p>Extremism: family members, parents or carers expose child to involvement in activity that supports or endorses extremism</p> <p>Drug and alcohol use by parents, carers, family members consistently impacts on child</p> <p>Physical or mental ill health or disability of parents / carers / family members impacts on the care of the child</p> <p>Criminal or anti-social behaviour: criminal record relating to violent or serious crime may impact on child in household; known gang involvement and drugs supply offences</p>	<p>Parental and Family Factors</p> <p>Protection from harm – physical and sexual abuse: parent / carer unable to protect child from harm, placing child at significant risk; parent carer sexually abuses child or is at high risk of doing so; child is being sexually abused or exploited; parent carer significantly physically harms child; evidence that child may be subject to harmful traditional practices</p> <p>Neglect: consistent failure to meet child's physical and material needs placing child at significant risk of harm, including significant risk of involvement in criminal or sexual exploitation</p> <p>Domestic abuse: parent / carer a victim of frequent domestic abuse; child at significant risk of emotional or physical harm; child is at high risk of being perpetrator or victim of serious abusive behaviour</p> <p>Perinatal period: does not access ante / post natal care and uses drugs or alcohol excessively; serious post natal depression causes serious risk to parent and child; inability to parent effectively and refusal to accept help has significant adverse impact on child</p> <p>Lack of parenting capacity / deliberately obstructive parenting has significant adverse impact on child's health, learning and education; long term emotion neglect means child is now at very high risk of involvement in exploitation as perpetrator or victim; breakdown of parent / child relationship places child at risk of significant harm</p> <p>Extremism: evidence that child is involved in / actively promoting violent extremism; evidence that parent / carer / child planning to travel to conflict zone to participate in extremist activity</p> <p>Drugs and alcohol: drug and alcohol use by parents, carers or other family members severely limits parenting capacity and has a significant adverse impact on child</p> <p>Physical or mental ill health or disability of parents / carers/ family members causes or places child at risk of significant harm</p> <p>Criminal or anti-social behaviour: criminal record for serious or violent crime, drugs supply offences and or known involvement in group violent offending /gang activity by family members has significant impact on child</p>

The indicators above are illustrative of levels of need and the point at which a referral to LA children's Services may be required. These are not exhaustive and are based on Pan London guidance.

[More detailed indicator descriptors can be found here:](http://www.londoncp.co.uk/files/revised_guidance_thresholds.pdf)

http://www.londoncp.co.uk/files/revised_guidance_thresholds.pdf

Other documents that may be of help include:

http://www.lambethscb.org.uk/sites/default/files/What_to_do_if_you_are_worried_about_a_child.pdf

http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/procedures/london_child_protection_procedures_chapters.html

<http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/elections-and-council/about-lambeth/lambeth-prevent-programme>

This threshold chart is supported by and should be used in conjunction with Lambeth Thresholds Guidance document.

In any situation where you believe a child has been, is being or is at risk of being harmed then you should contact:

Lambeth Children's Services First Response Team

Professionals' Line 020 7926 3100

Public Line 020 7926 5555 (24 hours)

If a child is at risk of immediate harm, call the police 999