A drawing of a cartoon character

Description automatically generated

Neglect

Live and Learn Sports

Safeguarding Children

Partnership 2020

2. Why it matters

1. Background

7. What to do =

* Take it seriously.
* Understand roles, use the Children’s Needs and Response Framework and Graded Care Profile.
* Share your concerns.
* Be prepared to challenge and escalate the issue if necessary.

3. Information

Neglect is the ongoing failure to meet a child’s basic needs. In July 2018, Neglect was the category of abuse for 58.7% of children subject to a child protection plan. Neglected children may be left hungry and dirty, without appropriate clothing, shelter, supervision, medical or health care. They may be in danger or not protected from physical or emotional harm. They may not get love or attention they need. Its important to recognise that many children experience other abuse along side neglect. Act quickly can prevent the long term consequences.

Neglect has harmful consequences in both the short and long term. It can life threatening and needs to be treated as quick as possible, just like other forms of child abuse. Neglect can result in poor physical, emotional and mental health. It can alter the way a child’s brain develops, damage their ability to form positive relationships and increase their vulnerability to other forms of abuse.

Neglect happens when parents or carers cant or choose not to meet the child’s needs. This can be because they don’t have the skills or support needed. It can also be due to other problems such as mental health issues. domestic abuse or drug and alcohol problems.Children should always be a priority.

RSCB

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board –

7-minute Briefing

6. Questions

4. Information

* Is the child is at risk of significant harm?
* What is daily life like for the child?
* What is the impact on the child?
* How have concerns been raised with the family?
* How has information been shared?
* What is the plan and what difference is it making?

5. Information

A range of evidence based tools have been developed in Rochdale to assist practitioners:

Neglect Screening Tool  
Graded Care Profile (0 to 11 years) Graded Care Profile (Adolescent)

Find these tools and guidance on the RBSCB website.

It isn't always easy to identify neglect but the longer a child’s living in a neglectful environment, the greater the damage. The first step for practitioners is to identify those children at risk and being bale to express the evidence base for this. Neglect is often depending on piecing small pieces of information together, which will present an overall picture of a child who is at risk. Neglect must always be defined in terms of the impact on a child and practitioners must be alert to children in neglectful households will have a different experience.