



# Safeguarding Module

## Neglect

# Neglect

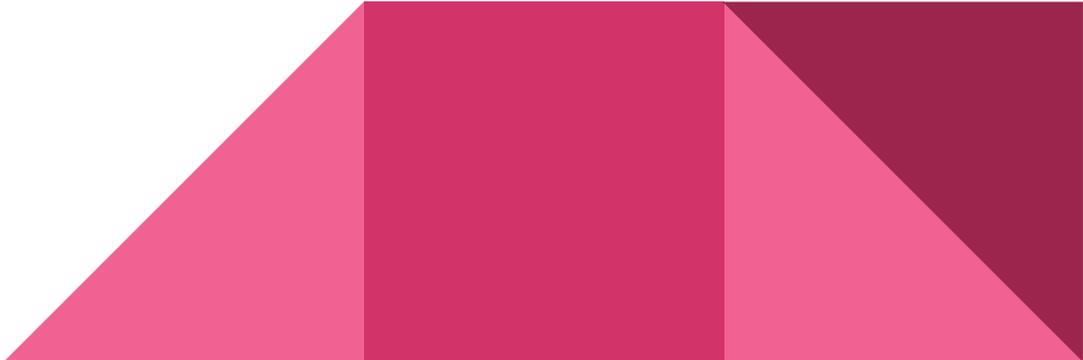
Neglect is one of the most hardest forms of abuse for a child to recover from, because the vital emotional and physical attention a child needs as they grow is absent, this then causes endless problems on a child's psyche which includes emotional , mental, and physical development.

Neglect is the most common form of abuse, which is also the hardest to recognise, as there is no defined line in place, to help to determine when the level of care a child receives is neglectful.

One in seven secondary age children in the UK has experienced neglect.

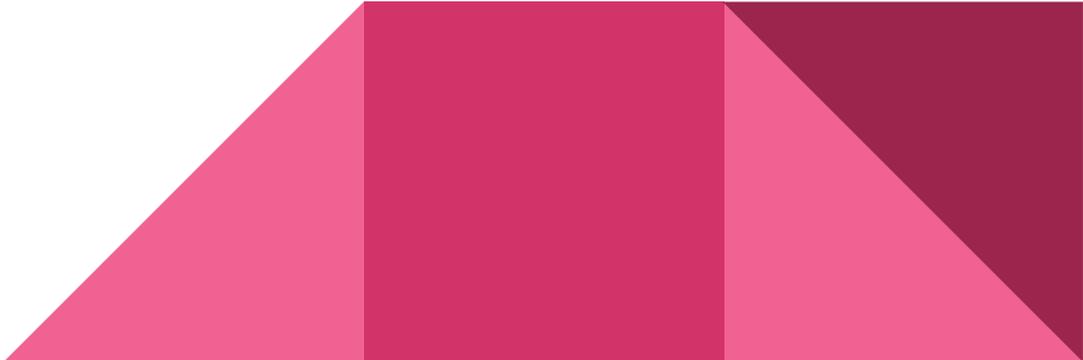
It is the responsibility of the agencies and services a child comes into contact with.

If suspicion arises they should report it.



# Types of Neglect

There are different categories of neglect which makes it a little easier to determine what to look out for.

- Emotional Neglect : This involves long term lack of emotional support or comfort, lack of / provide no support, show no emotions.
  - Physical Neglect: dirty living, smelly ,dirty clothes, poor hygiene, unchanged nappies, it may include smelling of urine as child may not know how to wash or keep clean appropriate to their age.
  - Nutritional Neglect: Over feeding or starvation.
  - Supervision: The parent does not take care of the child, absent, child may go missing, may have accidents.
  - Medical Neglect : lack of medication, medical attention.
  - Educational Neglect: Parent does not enrol the child to school and does not attend to the child's educational needs.
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# Signs of Neglect

- Incontinence
- Bags under the eyes
- Withdrawn
- Self soothing
- Overly independent
- Hyper vigilant
- Hyperactive / Attention Seeking
- Distracted
- Insecure low self esteem
- Clumsy
- No sense of danger
- Anger
- Harm themselves
- Does not maintain healthy hygiene
- Lacks spatial awareness

# The Child's Appearance

- Dirty
- Bedraggled
- Unkempt
- Dirty unbrushed hair
- Constantly wears inappropriate dirty clothes for the weather.
- Shoes too big or small
- Smell of urine
- Signs of tiredness bags under eyes
- Continually sick
- Bad teeth

# Additional signs

- Inadequate supplies for school
- Frequent accidental urination
- Untreated health problems
- Persistent infections, head lice, scabies, eye infections, throat infections
- Does Not meet development milestones
- The child has regular responsibilities that interfere with school

# The long Term Impact of Neglect

The higher risk of long term health problems are:

- Lung disease
- Diabetes
- malnutrition
- Arthritis
- Vision problems
- Limited in activities
- Brain damage
- High blood pressure
- Diminished executive functioning /cognitive skills
- Poor mental and emotional issues
- Attachment and emotional issues
- Post traumatic stress (PTSD)
- Low self esteem
- Eating disorders

# Safeguarding Report Team

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# Useful Links & Services



[www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)



[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)



[www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)



[www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)



[www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

