

Thresholds Matrix

	Level 1 Universal	Level 2 Low Risk to Vulnerable – targeted support	Level 3 Medium Risk High or Complex Level of Additional Needs Requiring Integrated Targeted Support OR Child in Need (section 17)	Level 4 High Risk Complex or Acute Level of Additional Needs Requiring Specialist or Statutory Integrated Response OR Child Protection (Section 47)
	Children and young people are achieving expected outcomes within universal provision without additional support. Children, young people, parents and carers can access these services directly by self-referral or open access	Child or young person has low level additional needs, likely to be short term and that may be known but are not being met. Child's needs are unclear or child with additional needs requiring multi agency intervention	Children with complex needs likely to require longer term intervention from statutory and/or specialist services. Children in need who may be eligible for a child in need service from children's social care and area at risk of moving to high level of risk if they do not receive early intervention. Children who have been assessed as 'high risk' in the past or children who have been adopted and now require additional support	Complex additional unmet needs. These children require specialist/statutory integrated support. Children experiencing significant harm that require statutory intervention such as child protection of legal intervention. Children that may also need to be accommodated either on a voluntary basis or by way of a Court Order.
HEALTH	Good physical health with age appropriate milestones including speech and language Accessing health services and developmental checks/immunisations up to date Sexual activity appropriate for age Good mental health No substance misuse (including alcohol)	Slow in reaching developmental milestones, missing health checks and immunisations Minor Health problems which can be maintained in mainstream school Missed appointments – routine and non-routine	Disability requiring specialist support to be maintained in a mainstream setting Physical and emotional development raising significant concerns Chronic/recurring health problems Missed appointment – routine and non-routine	High level disability which cannot be maintained in a mainstream setting Physical and emotional problems raising significant concerns Chronic/recurring health problems
SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOUR AND IDENTITY	Good mental health and psychological well-being Good quality early attachments, confident in social situations Knowledgeable about the effects of crime and antisocial behaviour Appropriately knowledgeable about sex and relationships and consistent use of contraception if sexually active Age appropriate independent living skills	Low level mental health or emotional issues requiring intervention, including poor self esteem Early onset of offending behaviour or activity (age 10-14) Early onset of sexual activity (13-14) or sexually active (15+) with inconsistent use of contraception Low level substance misuse (current or historical) Lack of age appropriate behaviour and independent living skills that increase vulnerability to social exclusion	Under 16 and has had (or caused) a previous pregnancy ending in still birth, abortion or miscarriage 16+ and has had (or caused) 2 or more previous pregnancies or is a teenage parent Coming to notice of Police on a regular basis but not progressed Received fixed penalty notice, reprimand, final warning or triage of diversionary intervention Evidence of regular/frequent drug use which may be combined with other risk factors Evidence that the child or young person has or is likely to be exposed to the risk of sexual exploitation Evidence of changing attitudes and more risk taking behaviour Mental Health issues requiring specialist community intervention Significant low self esteem Lack of appropriate behaviour and independent living skills, likely to impair development	Challenging behaviour resulting in serious risk to the child and others Suspicion of physical, emotional, sexual abuse or neglect High levels of domestic violence that put the child at significant harm Children who need to be looked after outside the home/parents or other family members unable to care for the child Failure or rejection to address serious (re) offending behaviour Known to be part of an urban street gang or County Line and involved in criminal activity In sexually exploitative relationship Teenage parent under 16, Under 13 engaged in sexual activity Evidence of regular/frequent drug use which may be combined with other risk factors Frequently missing from home for long periods Complex mental health issues requiring specialist interventions Significant low self-esteem/distorted self- image Complicated substance problems requiring specific interventions and/or child protection Lack of appropriate behaviour and independent living skills, likely to impair development Severe lack of age appropriate behaviour & independent living skills likely to result in significant harm e.g. bullying, isolation
LEARNING/ EDUCATION	Accessing early education at two, three and four years prior to starting school (and/or parents providing suitable opportunities for learning and development in the home environment) Good attendance at school/college/training No barriers to learning, achieving key stages	Removal from early education / resistance to attending early education Occasional truanting or non-attendance Identified language and communication difficulties Reduced access to books, toys or educational materials Few or no qualifications/NEET	No previous participation in early education even though it has been offered to the parent/family Short term exclusions or at risk of permanent exclusion, persistent truanting Statement of special educational needs/Education, Health, and Care Plan No access to books, toys or educational materials	No previous participation in early education and active resistance to accepting a free place (especially where a child protection plan is in place) Chronic non- attendance/persistent truanting Permanently excluded, frequent exclusions or no education provision No access to books, toys or educational materials No parental support for education
PARENTS AND CARERS/FAMILY AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS COMMUNITY AND CONTEXTUAL FACTORS	Supportive family relationships, parents able to provide care for child's needs, child fully supported financially and with good community, social and friendship networks An appropriate home environment that supports the child's physical, developmental and emotional needs. Parents/carers interested in and supporting their child's development and learning. Appropriate boundaries and guidance to help child develop appropriate values Positive activities are available and appropriate access to universal and community resources Community is a supportive community	Children affected by difficult family relationships or bullying Parent unable to meet child's needs without support, Reduced access to books, toys or educational materials in the family home Inconsistent care/care arrangements, lack of response to concerns raised regarding child Adequate community resources but family may have difficulty gaining access to them. Community characterised by negativity towards a child/young person Note: Consider the use of the Graded Care Profile.	Physical care or supervision of the child is inadequate, inconsistent parenting having significant impact Family home lacking in appropriate resources that would support the child's physical, developmental and emotional needs Parental learning disability, parental substance misuse or mental health impacting on parent's ability to meet the needs of the child Parental non-compliance History or a serious incident of domestic violence Risk of relationship breakdown with parent or carer and the child Young carers, privately fostered, children or prisoners, periods of LAC Child appears to have undifferentiated attachments Family require support services as a result of social exclusion – parents socially excluded Lack of community support/tolerance or hostility towards the child/young person or family Parents/carers do not access or there is significantly poor access to local facilities and targeted services to meet need Note: Consider the use of the Graded Care Profile.	Physical care or supervision of the child is inadequate, inconsistent parenting having significant impact Parental learning disability, parental substance misuse or mental health impacting on parent's ability to meet the needs of the child Parental non-compliance History or a serious incident of domestic violence Risk of relationship breakdown with parent or carer and the child Young carers, privately fostered, children of prisoners, periods of LAC Family require support services as a result of social exclusion – parents socially excluded Parents unable to meet child's needs without support/unable to manage/risk of family breakdown Substantial multiple problems preventing the family/young person from engaging with services/non engagement with services Community is hostile and dangerous Note: Use of the Graded Care Profile.