

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Accident & Emergency
Department (A&E)**

Department of the local hospital which deals with accident and emergency treatment.

Advocate

Assessment Framework

Shortened reference to the Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families. Section 7 guidance providing a systematic way of analysing, understanding and recording what is happening to children in their families and in the wider community in which they live.

Child

Anyone who has not reached their 18th birthday.

Child Abuse Investigation Unit

Child Death Review Panel

**Child and Adolescent Mental
Health Services (CAMHS)**

Inter-disciplinary team, often of specialist personnel, providing assessment and intervention for children and young people in promoting their mental health and emotional well-being.

Child Protection Conference

A formally convened meeting that identifies continuing risks to children and puts plans in place to manage those risks if they apply.

Child Protection Plan

A written plan which is a product of a

core assessment formulated usually within a core group of professionals and family members in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the child.

Child Protection Register

A data base maintained by the Social Services Department containing the names of children living in their area who are assessed as being at risk and for whom there is an inter-agency child protection plan in place.

Child Protection Review

A child protection conference convened to review a child protection plan and to determine whether a child's name remains on the child protection register.

Children Act (1989)

Legislation which determines how the welfare of children is addressed and which underpins the safeguarding arrangements and other legal measures.

Children Act (2004)

Children in Need

Defined under Part III of the Children Act 1989 as those children

- who are unlikely to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision of services by a local authority.
- whose health or development is likely to be significantly impaired without the provision of services.
- who are otherwise disabled.

Children's Social Care

Local authority child welfare staff, located in the Vulnerable Children Division of the Children and Lifelong Learning Directorate of the County Council (previously social services).

Chronology

An explicit summary, in date order, of significant events in a child's/family's life that may represent a change of circumstances, particularly but not exclusively associated with separation and loss.

Commission for Social Care Inspection**Core Assessment**

An in-depth assessment which addresses the most important aspects of the needs of a child where suspicions or allegations of child maltreatment arise. The core assessment may coincide with enquiries undertaken under Sec 47 of the Children Act. Its timescale for completion is 35 working days.

Core Group

A small group of people nominated by a child protection conference to devise and implement a child protection plan. It is an important forum in which family members can work with professionals and others in putting arrangements in place to safeguard a child's welfare.

Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)

Body of Solicitors who prosecute offenders on behalf of the Crown.

Emergency Duty Service (EDS)

Team of Social Workers who operate outside normal working hours.

Emergency Protection Order (EPO)_

An order granted under Section 44 Children Act 1989 to afford emergency protection for the child concerned. This also gives parental responsibility to the applicant for the duration of the order.

Enquiries to the Register

This is a formal request by professional staff in recognised child welfare agencies in establishing whether a child for whom they may

have concerns is the subject of a child protection plan. Recording information in this way enables the collation and analysis of information, including those individual children about whom concerns have been notified.

First Response Service

Independent Chairpersons

Independent conference Chairpersons are qualified child welfare professionals, having additional experience in managing operational arrangements for safeguarding children's welfare. They manage and co-ordinate formal arrangements for child protection conferences and Looked After Children reviews.

Interpreters

Spoken Language and British Sign Language interpreters are qualified independent practitioners providing essential support to families and professional staff in conducting assessments.

Key Worker

Suitably qualified and experienced social worker identified by a child protection conference in co-ordinating the work of the core group and in developing the child protection plan.

Local Authority (LA)

County Council (Children and Lifelong Learning Directorate).

Looked After Child

Child accommodated by the local authority, Sec 20 of the Children Act or otherwise in the care of the local authority, ie foster care or residential care.

OfSTED

The Office for Standards in Education, a regulatory body responsible for the inspection of educational resources, early years day care and education, including

	day nurseries and childminders.
Parental Responsibility (PR)	Legal terminology used to describe the rights, responsibilities, duties and powers of a parent as set out in the Children Act 1989 (sect 2-4).
Police Protection Powers	Powers under Sec 46 of Children Act 1989, enabling a police officer to remove a child to (or retain in) suitable accommodation, for up to 72 hours.
Register Custodian (RC)	Person responsible for maintaining data base containing details of children subject to a child protection plan.
Risk	Usually refers, in arrangements for safeguarding children's welfare, to a child being at risk of significant harm.
Safeguarding	A term linked to promoting the welfare of vulnerable children, irrespective of whether their "needs" extend to the threshold of being at risk of significant harm.
Safeguarding Children Board	
Section 17	Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 (Part III) relating to the provision of supportive services to children who may be "in need" in attaining reasonable standards health and development.
Section 47	Enquiries conducted by the local authority as a duty under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 in deciding whether to take action to safeguard or promote a child's welfare. These are enquiries that may be linked to conducting a core assessment in analysing the most important aspect of a child's needs.
Serious Case Review	A case review following the suspicious death of a child, or in the

event of a child suffering serious or life-threatening harm, in accord with part 8 of Working Together.

Significant Harm

Concept introduced by the Children Act 1989 as the threshold justifying compulsory intervention in family life. It is harm the child is likely to suffer from the care s/he is likely to receive, amounting to ill-treatment or the impairment of health or development. It is categorised by four individual, or over-lapping concepts, ie of physical abuse, child neglect, emotional abuse and sexual abuse.

Strategy Meeting

A meeting of key professionals in agreeing actions to be taken where there are potentially concerns about protecting a child from maltreatment and in safeguarding their welfare (parents are not invited).

Vulnerability

The susceptibility of a child to suffer the impact of significant harm arising from the child's individual "capacity", or from risks arising from environmental factors affecting the child.

Working Together

"Working Together to Safeguard Children (2006) Section 7 guidance to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.