



## Initial & Review Conference Agenda

### 1. Welcome

- (a) Introductions & Apologies
- (b) Conduct of the meeting to include confidentiality, Anti discriminatory practice & housekeeping
- (c) Exclusion criteria (if appropriate)
- (d) Reports received
- (e) Factual accuracy of the reports presented to conference
- (f) For review conferences: timeliness of core group minutes/child protection plans received.

**The views of the parents, children and significant others will be ascertained throughout the conference**

### 2. Purpose of the meeting & background history

### 3. Important people and pen picture of the child (The Voice Project)

### 4. (For review conferences) the progress and effectiveness of the child protection plan

### 5. (For review conferences) significant events since the last conference

### 6. What are people **worried** about? Home / education / health/police etc

### 7. What are the **positives** for the child (ren)/ family? Home / education / health/police etc

### 8. What is the daily lived experience of the child(ren) based on Q's 6 & 7 ?

### 9. What needs to happen to make **positive changes** for the child(ren) ?

### 10. Chairs Summary to include risks/strengths & Decision Making (Child in Need or Child Protection)

### 11. Review date, Core Group members & Core Group dates, visiting requirements.

### **Categories of Abuse as defined by HM Government (Working Together 2015)**

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting, by those known to them or, more rarely by a stranger for example, via the internet. They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.

#### **Physical Abuse**

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

#### **Emotional Abuse**

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects of the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

#### **Sexual Abuse**

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways of grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

#### **Neglect**

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- Provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.