

Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership – Threshold Matrix

Adopted September 2020

Inter-agency communication should occur at all levels to address any identified needs and risks with the family's consent

Threshold	Level 1 Universal	Level 2 Early Help	Level 3 Targeted Help	Level 4 Statutory Intervention
Needs of the child/ young Person	Needs are being met through universal services. May have additional needs that can be met within existing service.	Has additional needs that can be met through partnership working led by existing service	Has multiple needs that require an active and coordinated response from multi-agency working	Has a high level of unmet and complex needs that require statutory intervention or is in need of protection
Circumstances and risks / key features	Achieving learning targets Good attendance Meeting developmental milestones Has psychological well-being Socially interactive and skilled Ability to protect self and be protected	Absence/truancy from school Incidence of absence/missing from home Use of fixed term exclusions Risk of social exclusion Poor attachments Language and communication difficulties Reduced access to core needs Disability or additional special need Potential for becoming NEET Potential not to attain Slow in meeting developmental milestones Missing health checks/immunisations Minor health problems Early signs of offending/anti-social behaviour Underage sexual activity Early signs of drug alcohol misuse Poor self esteem Low level mental health/emotional issues	Persistent absence from school Missing from school/home regularly with no explanation Permanent exclusion/no school place Social exclusion Poor attachments No access to core services Significant disabilities NEET Development milestones not being met due to persistent parental failure/inability Chronic/recurring health problems Regular missed appointments affecting developmental progress Teenage pregnancy Drug/alcohol misuse impacting negatively Risky sexual behaviour Offending/anti-social behaviour /risk of entering Youth Justice System Emotional/mental health problems	Chronic persistent absence, permanent exclusions or no school place/risks entry into the care system Persistent social exclusion Poor attachments Complex/multiple disabilities Complex mental health issues affecting development, Inc. self-harm High level emotional issues and very low self esteem Non-organic failure to thrive Sexually inappropriate behaviour Sexually aggressive behaviour Teenage parent/pregnancy under age 13 Sexual abuse including exploitation Drug/alcohol use severely impacting development Frequently missing from home resulting in self-neglect Relationship breakdown Offending and in the criminal justice system Unaccompanied minors
Parent/Carer capacity and engagement	Protected by carers Secure and caring home Receive and act on information, advice and guidance Appropriate boundaries maintained	Inconsistent care arrangements Poor supervision by parent/carer Inconsistent parenting Poor response to emerging needs Historic context of parents/carers own childhood	Parental learning or physical disability, substance misuse or mental health impacting on parenting capacity Inconsistent care arrangements Poor supervision by parent/carer Inconsistent parenting Poor response to identified needs Historic context of parents/carers own childhood	Edge of care Parental encouragement of abusive/offending behaviour Continuing poor supervision in the home Parental non-compliance/ disguised compliance or cooperation Inconsistent parenting affects child's developmental progress Private fostering
Family and environment	Supportive relationships Housed good diet and kept healthy Supportive networks Access to positive activities	Young carers Poor parent/child relationships Children of prisoners/subject to community orders Bullying Poor housing and poor home environment Impacting on child's health Community harassment/discrimination Low-income affects achievement Parenting advice needed to prevent escalation Poor access to core services Risk of relationship breakdown Concerns about possible Domestic Abuse	Housing tenancy at risk Community harassment/discrimination Domestic abuse Relationship breakdown Transient families	Suspicion of physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect Domestic abuse resulting in child being at risk of significant harm Homeless child/young person Family intentionally homeless Community harassment/discrimination Extreme poverty affecting well-being and development Forced marriage, honour based violence, female genital mutilation Indicators of being exploited through radicalisation, modern slavery and trafficking

