



## Criteria for Child Protection Planning

The child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm in one of the following categories:

- **Physical Abuse**  
Actual or likely physical injury to a child or failure to prevent physical injury. This category may also be used when a parent or carer feigns the symptoms of, or deliberately causes, ill health to a child.
- **Sexual Abuse**  
Forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activity whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, penetrative or non-penetrative acts. They may involve non-contact activities such as children looking at pornographic material or watching sexual activity or encouraging the child to act in a sexually inappropriate way.
- **Neglect**  
The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical or psychological needs, likely to result in serious impairment of the child's health or development. It will include the failure by a parent or carer to provide adequate food, shelter and clothing, failing to protect a child from physical harm or danger, or failure to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.
- **Emotional Abuse**  
The persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on a child's emotional development. It may include conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may involve making a child feel afraid or in danger or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of ill-treatment.

AND is in need of a Child Protection Plan.

Children can only go on the register under one category. Emotional Harm is assumed under all the other categories.

Any risks to *Looked After Children* should be managed through their Care Plan.

[www.swcpp.org.uk](http://www.swcpp.org.uk) is a useful source for further information.