

Birmingham Neglect Strategy 2022-26: Working Together to Build Strong Family Foundations



Recognise:
Practitioners will know the signs of neglect.



Respond:
Agencies will take action to address neglect.



Quantify:
We will gather data and use this to improve practice.



Evaluate:
We will ensure our work improves outcomes for children.



Neglect is the most common form of child abuse.

Neglect is featured in around three quarters of serious case reviews.

Why is Tackling Neglect Important?

Neglect can cause lifelong harm to a child's health, development and wellbeing.

Neglect can be difficult to recognise and measure.

Our Priorities

1. Reduce and Prevent Neglect

We are committed to raising awareness of neglect and its impact across the city for professionals and the wider community. Education and training around neglect will be delivered to all agencies working with children, young people, and families.

2. Improve Capacity to Recognise Neglect

We aim to support practitioners working with children and families to identify and intervene where neglect is a concern. The Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) assessment tool has been introduced to build practitioners' confidence in recognising neglect and supporting families to make changes.

3. Respond to Neglect at an Early Stage

Neglect can be tackled far more effectively when it is identified at an early stage and targeted support provided. Improving the Early Help response is a priority in the city and training for professionals to ensure that neglect is identified and addressed at the earliest opportunity is an important part of the strategy.

4. Improve Planning & Intervention

A Neglect Toolkit has been introduced to support practitioners to assess, plan, and intervene where there are suspicions of neglect. The Toolkit, alongside GCP2, aims to ensure professionals in all agencies have a consistent approach to working with families and are aware of when concerns should be escalated.

