

**Home Conditions Checklist**

This is a short assessment of home conditions and whether these are likely to impact on the children who live there. It considers 10 aspects of home conditions such as odour, cleanliness, and decor. At the end there is a section to record a decision about how concerning the home conditions are and what actions should be taken to resolve any concerns.

The checklist should be completed jointly with the family where possible but can also be used as a desktop exercise. The scale is scored from 0-2 on each item and includes a column to make notes based on your observations. To score, consider each of the 10 areas and select the statement that best applies. If concerns are identified, follow-up actions can be agreed with the family and improvements can be tracked over time by reviewing the checklist. It may also be beneficial to complete a GCP2 Assessment to understand whether there are wider concerns about the care of the child(ren).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Child(ren)’s Name(s)** |  | **Child’s Date of Birth or EDD** |  |
| **Parent/Carer’s name(s)** |  | **Date of visit** |  |
| **Practitioner completing form** |  | **Agency** |  |
| **Was assessment completed during planned or unannounced visit?**  |  | **Was assessment completed with or without family?** |  |

**Adapted from Family Pack of Questionnaires and Scales, Department of Health, The Stationery Office**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Area** | **0 – issue not present** | **1 – issue present to some extent** | **2 – issue present to a significant extent** | **Notes** |
| 1 | Strong odour in home – such as rotting food, urine, mould |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 2 | Kitchen is unclean – sink, draining board, worktops, cooker, fridge |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 3 | Floors are dirty – covered in food, animal faeces, rubbish |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 4 | Bathroom unclean or cluttered – toilet, bath, or basin dirty, broken, or not accessible due to clutter  |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 5 | A child not having an appropriate bed or clean bedding  |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 6 | Excessive clutter/rubbish bags in home – hoarding or home cluttered to extent where access is limited, or child has no space to play  |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 7 | Decorative order of home in general is poor – such as broken doors and windows, stained or damaged walls |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 8 | Inadequate furnishings – such as no chairs or table, no curtains or floor covering, curtains always closed |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 9 | Risks to children – eg broken plug sockets, no smoke alarms, hazardous items such as cleaning products, lighters, drug paraphernalia within children’s reach  |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 10 | Garden uncared for/unsafe – very overgrown or containing rubbish, broken furniture etc  |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
|  | Total score (add together all 1 & 2 scores)  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Outcome** | **Tick** |
| I am *not concerned* about the impact of the home conditions on the child(ren)  |[ ]
| I have *some concerns* about the impact of the home conditions on the child(ren)  |[ ]
| I am *very concerned* about the impact of the home conditions on the child(ren)  |[ ]

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Agreed Tasks** | **Who will complete this?** | **When will it be completed?** |
| **1** |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |  |
| **5** |  |  |  |