



BSCP Practitioners Forum

Wednesday 19th June 2024

Hello & Welcome !



This meeting will be recorded

This meeting will be recorded on Microsoft Teams which will include video and audio content of the meeting and will be kept for 30 days. The lawful basis of the recording will be performance of a task carried out in the public interest, processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation or for the provision of health or social care purposes. The Childrens Trust privacy notice can be read [here](#).

If you object to being recorded, please alert the host.

Your rights under UK GDPR are explained and an Individual rights request can be made [here](#).

The meeting will be recorded to:

assure the quality of the notes used to create minutes following the events.

enable others who cannot join the call to view it afterwards.

Programme



14.00 **Welcome, Introduction and Safeguarding Update**
Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair, Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP)

14.15 **Preventing & Addressing Neglect in Birmingham**

- Look, sing, play campaign
- GCP2
- Neglect eLearning
- Neglect Practice Week

Lizzie Brookes, NSPCC
Nicola Smith, Birmingham Community Healthcare Trust
Kerrie Dawkins, L&D Officer, BSCP
Katherine Adams, Social Media & Comms Officer, BSCP

15.00 **Learning & Development Update.**
Dave Passley, L&D Programme Manager/**Kerrie Dawkins**, L&D Officer
Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership

15.15 **Practitioners Feedback & Any other Business**

16.00 **Close**

Welcome, Introduction and Safeguarding Update

Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair, Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP)

- **University of Liverpool** – what’s it like to be a child of the State? Research 2022/23
- [BSCP Practitioners Forum](#) – 20.03.2024
- **Safeguarding Partners Meeting** – 16.04.2024
- [Safeguarding Leaders’ Assembly](#) – 25.04.2024
- **Birmingham Children and Young People’s Partnership Board**: new 'Young People Sub-Group' – 30.04.2024
- [BSCP Spring Newsletter](#) - April 2024
- **Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2024+** – [Online Consultation](#) - 13.05.2024
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024](#)
- **Early Help Re-Structure** – 01.07.2024
- **DfE Review of Relationship, Sex and Health Education Guidance Consultation**: 16.05 to 11.07.2024
- Penny’s [blog](#) – May 2024

Preventing & Addressing Neglect in Birmingham

Lizzie Brookes, NSPCC

Nicola Smith, Birmingham Community Healthcare Trust

Kerrie Dawkins, L&D Officer, BSCP

Katherine Adams, Social Media & Comms Officer, BSCP

NSPCC

look say sing play

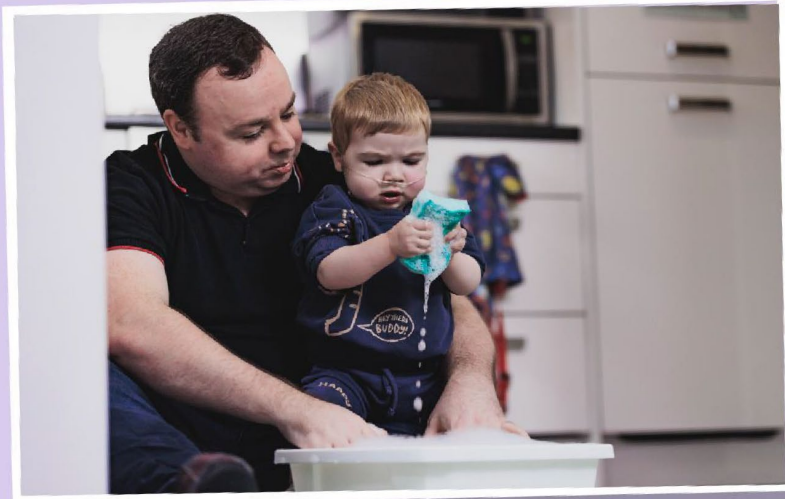


About the campaign

Look, Say, Sing, Play empowers parents to change everyday moments into brain-building ones.

The campaign is for parents with babies under two, and is designed to be relevant right from birth.

Our aim is to help parents give their child the best start in life – both by building their brain and strengthening bonds.



About the campaign

The campaign is based on fun and easy tips to help parents have high quality interactions with their baby.

Used as part of their daily routine, the tips are also designed to help parents bond.

Every tip also explains how it helps so parents can understand the importance of what they're doing and feel empowered.





look

at what your baby's focusing on and
how they react

say

what you're doing in silly voices and
use funny faces

sing

along to your favourite tunes or
make up your own

play

simple games and see what your
baby enjoys

Who the campaign is aimed at



First time parents



Newborns



Children up to 2yrs

Those currently pregnant



- Those at beginning of the parenting journey
- Those with less parenting knowledge/understanding
- Those who are hungry for info and support

Why are the NSPCC running it?



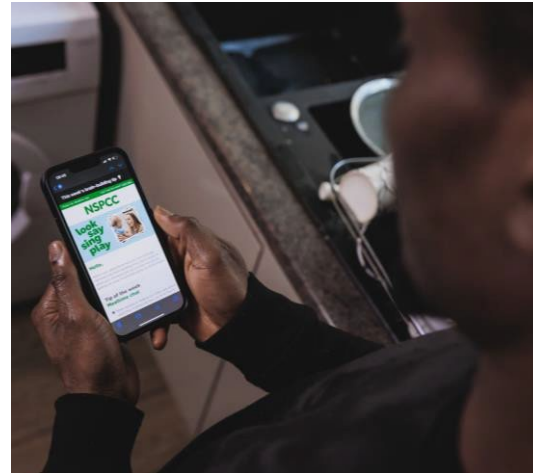
Good interaction builds a bond between parent and child which is crucial to the child's healthy development.

Without this attachment, abuse is a much more significant risk.



We want to enable good interactions by giving parents the tools and confidence to do it well.

Look, Say, Sing, Play resources



Digital resources

- Free 20-minute parent webinar
- Look, Say, Sing, Play chatbot
- Look, Say, Sing, Play [YouTube playlist](#)



Want immediate tips for an easy and fun way to build your child's brain? Speak to our chatbot for lots of ideas.

N Hi thanks for using the Look, Say, Sing, Play chatbot created by the NSPCC to give you personalised tips to suit you and your baby.

Before we get started, please let me know a bit more about you and your little one to make sure the tips are right for you.

First things first, how old is your child?

Just now

0-6 months

6-12 months

12-18 months

18-24 months



Display Board pack

Display board example

Here's an example of how you could present your display board, along with some top tips.

look say sing play
to build your baby's brain every day

It all starts with...

look say sing play

Serve and return

Try these activities

Happy song

Copy cat

Light and sound

Trolley vision

NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

vxom

Alternative LSSP border.

look say sing play look say

look say sing play

Interchangeable activity sheets can be swapped out weekly. Strips of white paper can be used to create the window frames.

Alternative simple white frames. You could simply stick these with adhesive tack and draw on string and drawing pins.

These frames give more information on how to look, say, sing, and play. You could use string and drawing pins to hang these up, making the scene look more realistic.

You could have a space for photographs of parents and carers trying the activities out. This could help encourage them to take part.

Make sure to include the NSPCC branding so staff and parents know where the materials come from and that they can be trusted.

Add the QR code for easy access to more resources.

What next?

All resources available on:

NSPCC
Learning

Encourage parents to sign up for brain building tips.

Get free weekly tips

We'll send you a new tip, tailored to your child's age each week

Get free weekly tips

Birmingham Neglect Strategy 2022-26:



Working Together to Build
Strong Family Foundations

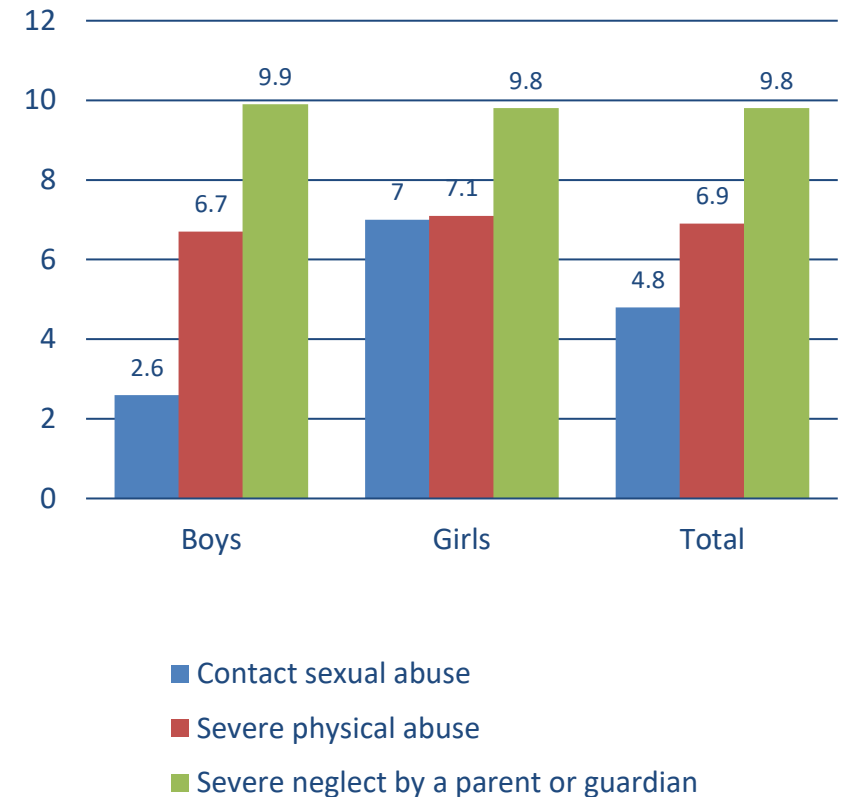


Tackling Neglect in Birmingham with GCP2

Why are we worried about neglect?

- Most common form of child abuse – NSPCC estimate 1 in 10 children have experienced neglect
- Most common category for Child Protection plan. More likely to be subject of repeat referrals to Children’s Social Care and longer-term intervention.
- Neglect features in 75% of SCRs and CSPRs

One in ten 11–17 year olds report severe neglect



Why are we worried about neglect in Birmingham?



- High levels of unemployment, income inequality, health inequality, and deprivation compared with the rest of UK
- Highest rates of child poverty in UK
- Disproportionate impact of poverty on black, Asian and minority ethnic families
- Higher rates of children with disabilities/SEN than national average
- Impact of Covid-19 pandemic and cost of living crises on families

Living on a low income in a run-down neighbourhood does not make it impossible to be the affectionate, authoritative parent of healthy, sociable children. But it does, undeniably make it more difficult. (Utting 1995)

Impact of Neglect



Neglected children...

...are at high risk of accidents

...are vulnerable to exploitation & sexual abuse

...are more likely to have insecure attachment patterns

...have some of the poorest long-term health & development outcomes

...are less likely to develop resilience

Learning from Serious Cases

A number of child deaths in Birmingham have been linked to neglect in recent years

Issues identified from previous cases and audits:

- Inadequate information sharing and multi-agency working
- Family history not considered/holistic picture not built
- Lack of professional curiosity
- Child's lived experience not understood
- Assessment of neglect can be subjective and biased
- Professionals can find it hard to have 'difficult' conversations with families
- Neglect can become 'normalised'



“No single practitioner can have a full picture of a child’s needs and circumstances so effective sharing of information between practitioners, local organisations and agencies is essential for early identification of need, assessment, and service provision to keep children safe...

Fears about sharing information must not be allowed to stand in the way of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children”

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65803fe31c0c2a000d18cf40/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023_-_statutory_guidance.pdf

Responding to Neglect with GCP2



NSPCC

Graded Care Profile 2

MEASURING CARE, HELPING FAMILIES

What is GCP2?

The Tool

- The Tool
- Scorecards
- Handbook
- Guidance and Theory
- Parent leaflet



What is GCP2?



- Evidence-based assessment tool
- Licensed by NSPCC
- Measures quality of care provided to children using simple framework
- Identifies when care is 'good enough' and when it is neglectful
- Informs plans and assessments
- Evidences parents' capacity to change
- Focuses on child's lived experience
- Can be used at any level of the system – from Early Help to Care Proceedings



Who can use GCP2?

Anyone working with children, young people and families can complete or contribute to a GCP2 assessment, either alone or alongside other professionals.

GCP2 training is available to all practitioners working with children and families in Birmingham. To date over 1750 professionals have been trained and licensed in the city including:

- 354 Social Workers
- 182 Health Visitors & School Nurses
- 152 BCT Early Help Workers
- 396 Family Support Workers
- 124 Midwives & Hospital Nurses
- 339 School and Nursery Staff



Benefits of GCP2 for Practitioners



- Promotes multi-agency working
- Creates a consistent and objective approach across agencies
- Improved staff knowledge and confidence
- Improved quality of referrals
- More effective use of resources – avoids costs of unnecessary or ineffective interventions
- Improved outcomes for children and families

Benefits of GCP2 for Families

- Simple to understand – colour coded and clear
- Parents encouraged by strengths-based approach and seeing improvements in scores
- Better understanding of how their behaviours may harm their child
- Can be completed alongside parents and involves them in planning
- Breaks concerns down into simple steps – more achievable
- Many examples of escalation and de-escalation – ensuring family are receiving appropriate level of support



GCP2 in Birmingham: Findings from evaluation



I really got the support I needed – really helpful. I've got confidence in myself again now...It made a difference and now I feel a lot better about myself -
Parent

It identifies neglect *with* the family. They feel less judged because they are rating themselves. So, it makes it easier to work with them on improvement. We give them a voice - Practitioner

It works by raising and deepening awareness of what 'neglect' is. It gives confidence to practitioners and allows us to create mutual respect with parents, see what they are doing right and what they need to work on. - Practitioner

They understood my problems and my parenting is better. They celebrated my good stuff I was doing already and made me feel encouraged and motivated. I've improved a lot - Parent

Source: Researcher interviews with families and practitioners – Evaluation of GCP2 Pilot 2022 – CREC

Accessing GCP2 Training



NSPCC licensed GCP2 Training is available at no cost to all professionals working with children and families in Birmingham. Anyone who is involved in safeguarding or supporting children is advised to attend

Ongoing support is provided as well as access to all licensed resources

To book <https://booking.lscpbirmingham.org.uk/>

Responding to Neglect - Practitioner Tool

Neglect Toolkit

Multi-agency guidance for
practitioners

Working Together to Build Strong
Family Foundations



1

Includes guidance and tools to help practitioners:

- Recognise the signs of neglect
- Understand causes of neglect
- Respond to neglect
- Assess neglect
- Make an action plan to support a family
- Deal with challenges
- Capture the child's lived experience
- Know when to escalate or step down

[Birmingham Neglect Toolkit - Birmingham Children's Partnership \(lscpbirmingham.org.uk\)](https://www.lscpbirmingham.org.uk)



Child Neglect Screening Tool

This Screening Tool should be used in all cases where neglect is suspected and will aid practitioners in deciding whether a Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) tool should be completed. The tool is intended for practitioners working with children and families in all partner agencies to quickly identify areas of concern which may indicate a child/young person is being neglected.

If you have 3 or more 'Yes' answers, completion of the GCP2 is recommended to understand the lived experience of a child you are worried about.

If you are not trained to carry out the full assessment using GCP2, you should contact a relevant person or team within your organisation who can complete this. If you feel your concerns for the child warrant a multi-agency response, you should submit a Family Connect or Request for Support form stating why you believe the child, young person or family would benefit from an assessment including the GCP2 and use this screening tool as evidence.

This screening tool does not replace Birmingham's and/or your own agency's safeguarding policy and procedures, in cases where you are concerned that a child has suffered, or is at risk of, immediate and/or significant harm. All agencies should refer to [Right Help, Right Time](#) for threshold guidance.

Child(ren)'s Name(s)	
Child(ren)'s Date(s) of Birth or EDD	
Is there open Early Help or statutory intervention for this family? Yes/No	
Practitioner completing form	
Agency	

	Are You Worried About?	Yes	No	Comments / Evidence
1	The child's access to adequate and nutritious food	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	Conditions in the home (are they unhygienic/cluttered/ overcrowded/lacking basic amenities?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	The child not having a suitable or safe place to sleep	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4	The child not having appropriate clothing for weather conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5	A child not having clean or adequate clothing (size/condition/hygiene)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6	A child's presentation (eg hygiene/body odour/dental decay/unclean hair and skin)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7	Whether a parent/carer is seeking medical advice appropriately or attending routine appointments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8	A lack of age-appropriate safety measures (eg stair gates/window locks/car seats/internet safety)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9	A lack of age-appropriate supervision in home and outside (including online)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10	A parent/carer not making safe and age-appropriate childcare arrangements (eg using unsuitable babysitters/leaving young children home alone)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11	A lack of emotional warmth and positive interaction between parent and child	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12	A lack of appropriate stimulation or play (including lack of age-appropriate toys/activities/books)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13	Poor school attendance or parent/carer not supporting education/does not engage with nursery or school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14	Inappropriate behaviour management /frequent criticism/lack of interest in child's achievements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
15	A lack of (or inconsistent) age-appropriate routines and boundaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
16	A high level of instability for the child (such as frequent home moves or changes of school, changes to people living in the home/caring for the child)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Any other concerns around neglect? Please specify			
	Total (add number in each column)			

Questions & Comments...



Learning & Development Update

David Passley

Learning & Development Programme Manager, BSCP

Kerrie Dawkins

Learning & Development Officer, BSCP



Courses Available throughout June & July (with limited spaces available)



- **Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) Training for Practitioners**
Wednesday 26th June 2024
Monday 1st July 2024
Thursday 11th July 2024
- **Module 2. Working with Domestic Abuse within the context of Multi-Agency Working – promoting critically reflective practice.** (Do not book this course if you have not previously attended Module 1)
Thursday 4th July 2024
- **Safeguarding Disabled Children & Young People**
Thursday 11th July 2024
- **Identifying, Supporting and Protecting Girls and Women from FGM (CPD Advanced)**
Friday 12th July 2024
- **Child Exploitation: Tackling CE Together in Birmingham**
Thursday 18th July 2024
Tuesday 13th August 2024



To book, scan the QR code or go to: [Multi-Agency Training - Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership \(lscpbirmingham.org.uk\)](https://lscpbirmingham.org.uk)



Practitioners Feedback and Questions



Any Other Business!



Sign up for our Newsletter and Independent Chair's Blog



Scan the QR code or visit
[www.lscpbirmingham.org.uk/
newsletter-signup-form](http://www.lscpbirmingham.org.uk/newsletter-signup-form)

Safeguarding News Partnership Updates Training Opportunities

Evaluation

Your feedback is very important to us for future forums

Click <https://forms.office.com/e/PMpv6qWWZ4> to access the evaluation form or scan the QR code below.

Please submit your response by 28th June 2024



**Thank you all for attending and
enjoy the rest of your day!**

**Next Practitioners Forum
Wednesday 25th September 2024**

