Making a Referral to Children's Social Care

(Level 4 - of the Continuum of Need)

Prior to referral:- call for advice

School Safeguarding Helpline – 01772 531196
E: mash.education@lancashire.gov.uk

Matt Chipchase | MASH Education Officer | 01254 220989
E: matt.chipchase@lancashire.gov.uk

Jenny Ashton I MASH Education Officer | 01772 531643
E: jennifer.ashton@lancashire.gov.uk

Victoria Wallace | School Safeguarding Officer | Advice Line – 01772 531196
E: school.safeguarding@lancashire.gov.uk

Considerations:-

- Is there an Early Help Assessment in place? If not, why not? ☐
- Have you obtained consent from the Family? *Referrals to CSC at Level 4 / Section 17 must be discussed with parents.* ☐
- Referred to the Continuum of Need? ☐
- Considered the voice of the child and their lived experience? ☐

Your Referral:-

Detail what support has already taken place and the impact of this

Why are you referring now and what does the family want to happen?

Always keep the impact of the child at the centre of your referral

Be clear and concise.

Have you considered and documented the protective factors and strengths?

Find up to date versions of Threshold Document / CON & Request for Support Forms here
https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/supporting-children-and-families/safeguarding-children/requesting-support-from-childrens-services/

What to do

If this is an urgent referral at Level 4 / Section 47 and the child is at immediate risk or suffering significant harm. Phone **MASH** on **0300 123 6720** or **0300123 6722** for the out of hours duty team or the Police.

Can I refer to CSC without consent?

Is there chronic neglect and lack of engagement at other levels – refer to the Neglect Strategy and clearly identify all steps taken to engage in support, clearly list dates and action – phone, email, text, note through the door, home visits and police welfare checks, for example.

Lancashire County Council