

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 | 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.