



Safer Seven

Your 7 minute safeguarding bulletin



1. Neglect

Neglect is the most prevalent form of child maltreatment in the UK and the most common reason for children to be subject to a Child Protection plan.

Assessing neglect and its impact can be difficult as it is complex. Use of an evidence based tool aids accurate assessment and planning.

2. What is GCP2?

The Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) is an updated practical tool that supports practitioners in measuring the quality of care delivered to a child or children over a period of time.

The NSPCC evidence-based tool provides a representative view of the current level of care and provides grades for different aspects of care. The grades are based on observations and good quality evidence in the family home.

3. How does it work?

Different aspects of family life are 'graded' on a scale of 1 to 5. Questions are broken down into 4 areas:

- physical, such as quality of food, clothes and health
- safety, such as how safe the home is and if the child knows about things like road safety
- emotional, such as the relationship between the carer and child
- developmental, such as if a child is encouraged to learn and if they are praised for doing something good.

4. Working with Families

The GCP2 supports practitioners to work with parents to highlight strengths and weaknesses and also help to identify what needs to be changed.

By working out what parents can do better, it's easier for the person working with a family to get them the right support to improve the life of their child.

5. Who can use GCP2?

Anyone involved in evaluating the quality of care given in suspected cases of neglect and who conducts home visits can use the GCP2.

This includes for example:

- Social workers,
- Health visitors, School Nurses
- Midwives
- Family support workers,
- Teachers

6. Training

Everyone must be specially trained to use the GCP2 tool. All practitioners intending to use the GCP2 tool must have attended and passed the training programme which is delivered by a team of licensed GCP2 Trainers for the DSPP.

The tool is not available to and **must not** be used by anyone who has not attended the training.

7. What to do next

Information, briefings, and guidance documents about the GCP2 are available on the DSPP website: <https://safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk/safeguarding/child/work-with-children-young-people/child-neglect/>

There is also a wealth of information on GCP2 available on the NSPCC website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>