



How to contact the 'Children's Front Door': Child In Need Assessment teams (Social Care) and Advice Team (Early Help)

By telephone: **01904 551900**
By email: **childrensfrontdoor@york.gov.uk**
childrensadvic@york.gov.uk
By letter: **The Children's Front Door, West Offices,
Station Rise, York YO1 6GA**
Out of hours: (Before 8.30am and after 5.00pm)
By telephone 01609 780780
By email **edt@northyorks.gov.uk**

For more information about the Children's Front Door visit the
YorOK website

www.yor-ok.org.uk/childrensfrontdoor

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim
własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

 **01904 551550**



Thresholds Guide Referrals into CYC's Front Door, including Children's Social Care

This document provides a quick reference guide to the full **Integrated Working Threshold Guidance** which can be found on the YorOk website (www.yor-ok.org.uk)

Context:

Responsibility as to whether to make a referral into CSC lies with the individual agency. Individual workers should make this decision in discussion with their line manager and in line with their agency policy and procedures.

The decision will be based on a number of factors including the age of the child, family background, other circumstances and, crucially, professional judgement.

This threshold guide helps inform that decision making process.

Working Together 2015:

"Where need is relatively low level individual services and universal services may be able to take swift action. For other emerging needs a range of early help services may be required, coordinated through an early help assessment, as set out above. Where there are more complex needs, help may be provided under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 (children in need). Where there are child protection concerns (reasonable cause to suspect a child is suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm) local authority social care services must make enquiries and decide if any action must be taken under section 47 of the Children Act 1989.



EARLY HELP SERVICES

EMERGING NEEDS/TARGETED SUPPORT/EARLY INTERVENTION: (TIER 2 SERVICES – **NOT** CHILDREN’S SOCIAL CARE)

Families, or individual children, who are displaying a combination of emerging or escalating needs who may benefit from an Integrated Working, co-ordinated multi-agency response.

The Children’s Advice Team can advise and support practitioners in their use of integrated working processes to support the child/ family and obtain outcomes needed.

Interventions at this level require consent from the family.

CHILD IN NEED (SECTION 17) - CHILDREN’S SOCIAL CARE

A child in need is defined under the Children Act 1989 as:

A child who is unlikely to achieve or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health and development will be significantly impaired, without the provision of services; or a child who is disabled.

A referral for a CIN assessment should be made where there are complex needs (WT 2013) and where the involvement of services other than social care, using co-ordinated and recorded integrated working processes, has not been able to impact on the situation.

A referral into children’s social care for a social worker led **child in need (CIN) assessment** for service requires the consent of the family.

CHILD PROTECTION (SECTION 47) REFERRAL (CHILDREN’S SOCIAL CARE)

Where there are concerns about maltreatment the local authority children’s social care must initiate enquiries to find out what is happening to the child and whether protective action is required. Local authorities, with the help of other organisations as appropriate, also have a duty to

CHILD PROTECTION (SECTION 47) REFERRAL (CHILDREN’S SOCIAL CARE) continued

make enquiries under **section 47** of the Children Act 1989 if they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, to enable them to decide whether they should take any action to safeguard and promote the child’s welfare. There may be a need for immediate protection whilst the assessment is carried out.

Referrals in this category do not need the consent of the family.

The Duty Social Worker can advise whether the concern reaches the threshold for S47/child protection intervention or not.

OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING SOCIAL CARE ATTENTION

S7 Children Act 1989	A court may ask the local authority for a welfare report when they are considering any private law application under the Children Act 1989.
S37 Children Act 1989	When, during any private law proceedings under the Children Act 1989, a question arises about the welfare of the child, and it seems to the court that it might be appropriate for a Care Order or Supervision Order to be made, then it will direct a local authority to undertake an investigation of the child’s circumstances and report to the Court its findings.

There are a variety of other circumstances in regard mainly to children who are looked after or who may become looked after, or applications to adopt, which would require the intervention of Children’s Social Care and a number of further legislative measures which may be used.

