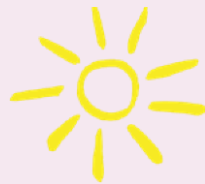




Safeguarding is everyone's business

Medical Neglect



RBSCP



ROCHDALE BOROUGH
SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

rochdalesafeguarding.com

Child neglect: know the signs - medical neglect



Tackling child neglect is a key priority for us all in Rochdale. Child neglect comes in many different forms and is one of the main reasons for a child being on a child protection plan in the borough. The effect of neglect on children and young people is devastating.

What is neglect?

Child neglect occurs when parents or carers fail to meet the basic needs of a child or young person. Neglect can be deliberate or unintentional and there are different reasons why it might occur. There are four main types of neglect: physical, educational, emotional and medical neglect. If a child or young person suffers from one form of neglect there is a higher chance of them experiencing another form of neglect too.



What is medical neglect?

It is a parent's / carer's responsibility to ensure that a child receives adequate health and dental care. If a parent or carer fails to provide this, it is classed as medical neglect. Examples of this include if a child injures themselves and the parent does not seek treatment for this. Medical neglect may also come in the form of ignoring the advice of medical professionals.

It is important therefore to consider that any child can be medically neglected; it is not always the ones you might consider to be more 'at risk'. While socioeconomic status might be a factor to be aware of, ALL children need to be monitored.

Children who are cared for and/or have a hearing impairment/other disability are particularly at risk of neglect.

What are the warning signs of medical neglect?

- *Being regularly ill/tired*
- *Untreated injuries or illnesses*
- *Poor dental hygiene*



Where should I report my concerns?

If you have any concerns that a child is being abused or neglected, or is at risk of harm, call Rochdale Borough Council's children's social care team on 0300 303 0440. If someone is in immediate danger contact the Police on 999.

Don't ignore it, report it. Safeguarding is everyone's business.

For further information about safeguarding children and young people and local help and support available visit: rochdalesafeguarding.com