

7 Minute Briefing- Educational Neglect

'a failure to ensure regular educational attendance that prevents the child from reaching their full, academic potential'

Educational neglect involves a parent or carer failing to provide a stimulating environment, show an interest in the child's education at school, support their learning, or respond to any special needs, as well as failing to comply with LEA requirements regarding school attendance.

How would you approach this in your role?

Complete sessions with both CYP and parent/ carer to get a true picture.

Explore and identify the underlying reasons for the neglect. Is it child based, adult based a mixture or something else?

Target the barriers to attending school eg DV, routines & boundaries, poor mental health in CYP or adult, ill health, transport, clothing etc. Agree SMART actions.

Establish clear communications between agencies and family members.

Address the broader impact of educational neglect with the CYP and parent/ carer, such as poor emotional and psychological development, low self-esteem, poor mental health including depression and anxiety, greater risk of CSE, lower educational attainment.

Who would /could help the family?

- School attendance officer, pastoral support/ SENDCO
- School attendance consultant (SAC)
- PAST
- Pupil Access
- Children Missing Education (CME)
- Elective Home Education (EHE)
- SENDIAS/ SEND Local Offer
- Victim Support, IDVA, NEST
- Police Early Intervention Team
- FGC
- CFW FiS/ TYS/ Groupwork/ Community/ POWAR
- Health, including adult mental health services, ADHD nursing clinic, Occupational Health, CAMHS, school nurse/ HV, SALT
- Other specialist services, including Inspire, Social Prescribers, Homestart, ADHD Northwest, CHATs, KOOTH
- Personal & community support network— including family & friends, other parents



What tools / interventions / resources may you use?

- Graded Care Profile 2
- Action plans
- Clear guidance/ direction of expectations and responsibilities
- Parent contracts/ CYP contracts/ Educational contracts
- Acknowledgement / celebration of improved attendance through text/ phone call
- ATTEND/ EBSA Toolkits
- Freedom
- FGC
- Daily routines planner
- Young Person's/ Family Radar
- Triple P, CYGNETS, Incredible Years
- Confidence/ self-esteem direct work sessions
- Breakfast/ after school clubs

How would you evidence progress or concerns?

- TAF meetings/Early Help Plan/RADAR/GCP2
- School attendance data (including 'lates', authorised/ unauthorised absences)
- Progress/ lack of progress towards educational targets/ milestones
- Evidence of parental involvement such as support with reading books/ homework, completing consent forms for visits etc.
- Evidence of rewards and consequences from school
- Evidence from direct work
- Evidence from health/ other services eg EP reports, CAMHS assessments.

