**Blackpool Neglect Pre – Birth Screening Tool**

Blackpool’s neglect strategy sets out that the identification and response to neglect is the responsibility of all agencies that work with children and families. This screening tool supports practitioners’ initial identification of neglect prior to birth. Answers should consider the impact of neglect on the unborn baby, considering the cumulative impact of the parents’ actions (parents refers to biological parents and/ or adults who will assume a parental role). A separate screening tool should be completed for any other linked children. The screening may be used with other single- and multi-agency assessments will develop a more rounded picture of the unborn baby’s wellbeing. The tool is not a substitute for professional judgement and there is no predetermined response to a particular number of questions answered yes or no.

Name of Child: Unborn Click or tap here to enter text.

Expected Date of Delivery: Click or tap to enter a date.

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| 1. **Is there evidence that the unborn baby experiences neglect in their physical care?**
 |
| Yes |  [ ]  | No |[ ]
| ***Nutrition****: is mum eating appropriately? Is she obese or underweight? Does she have an eating disorder?* ***Housing****: is the housing adequate, clean and ready for the arrival of the baby, with a safe sleeping environment?* ***Clothing****: have preparations been made for baby?* ***Health****: has mum attended antenatal and other health appointments? Does either parent have a history of poor mental health or learning difficulties that would impact on their ability to care for a new born? Has mum been diagnosed with gestational diabetes? Is mum prioritising the unborn baby’s wellbeing?* |

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| 1. **Is there evidence that the unborn baby experiences neglect in their safety?**
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| Yes |  [ ]  | No |  [ ]  |
| *Are there adequate safety measures in place for the arrival of a new born (baby equipment including for bathing, smoke alarm, medication stored out of reach of children)? Is there a support network in place for the parents with suitable adults? Are adults and older children within and visiting the household a risk to a new born? Are dogs or other pets a risk to a new born?* |

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| 1. **Is there evidence that the unborn baby experiences neglect in their emotional care?**
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| Yes |  [ ]  | No |  [ ]  |
| *Are the parents emotionally connected to the child? Is there domestic abuse, substance misuse, poor adult mental health or other indicators of abuse in the home environment? Do parents understand their impact on an unborn baby? Have the parents any complex needs e.g. formerly in our care, previous children removed, experienced childhood adversity or trauma themselves, young parents, older children in household with complex needs, unusually large family?* |

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| 1. **Is there evidence that the unborn baby experiences neglect in their developmental care?**
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| Yes |  [ ]  | No |  [ ]   |
| *Do any of the parents or people who live at the property smoke? Is there any substance misuse? Is the unborn baby developing as expected? Is mum attending growth scans?* |

If there are indications of neglect you should complete a full neglect assessment (Graded Care Profile 2) and reconsider the child’s level of need, in accordance with [*Working Well with Children and Families in Lancashire*](https://www.blackpoolsafeguarding.org.uk/assets/uploads/%28CON%29%20Pans%20Lancs%20support%20for%20Children%20and%20Families.pdf). Your agency’s safeguarding lead will be able to support you with this.