



Bolton Safeguarding Children Partnership

Framework for Action

Providing effective support to children and their parents

Introduction

The Bolton Framework for Action outlines how local practitioners work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in our area. It sets out the thresholds that all partners will apply when working with children and their parents.

This edition of the of the Framework for Action builds on the strengths and learning from previous versions and sets out the local arrangements to:

- Identify, assess and respond to children's needs across our continuum from delivering prevention, early help, to targeted responses, to protecting children from abuse and neglect
- Access additional services to address children's needs
- Seek advice and guidance about thresholds or interventions
- Act when there are disagreements about the level of help and support a child needs

The Framework for Action has been developed with partners and remains rooted in strong multi-agency working to achieve the best for Bolton's children. All services and practitioners, including commissioned services, working in Bolton should ensure their policies and practice embeds the requirements outlined in this document.

The statutory safeguarding partners would like to acknowledge and thank all those who participated in and contributed to the update of this edition.



Su Long -
Chief Officer,
Bolton Clinical
Commissioning Group

Tony Oakman -
Chief Executive,
Bolton Council

Stuart Ellison -
Chief Superintendent,
Greater Manchester Police

Framework for Action

Providing effective support to children and their parents

Principles

Effective and consistent use of Bolton's Framework for Action by all those who work directly or indirectly with children and their parents will support children in Bolton reach their full potential.

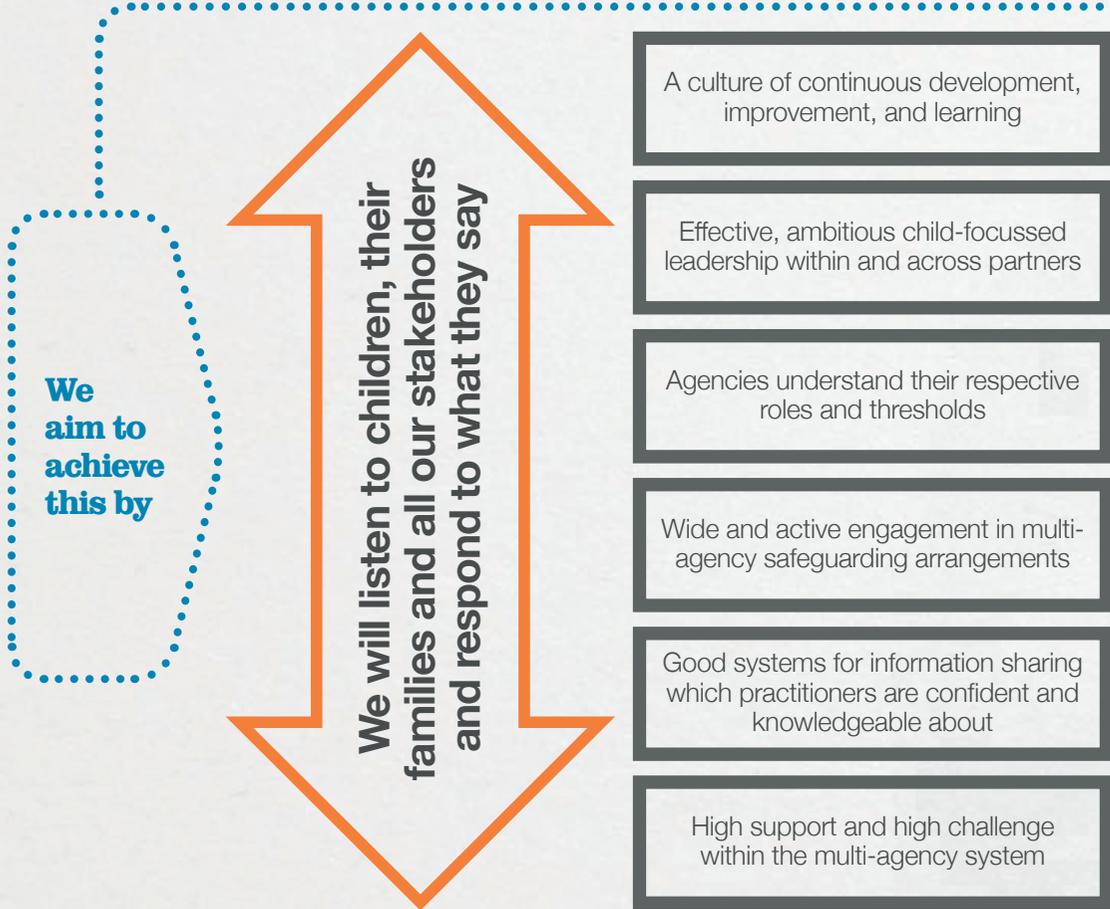


Framework for Action

Providing effective support to children and their parents

These principals will also ensure that the thresholds and safeguarding arrangements set out in this document will support the statutory partners achieve their vision for Bolton:

In Bolton we want to give all our children the best possible start in life, so that they have every chance to succeed, be safe and happy.



This will create an environment in which multi-agency practice will flourish



This will lead to improved outcomes for children:

Early help is being used effectively to co-ordinate preventative responses to help meet children's needs

Children and their families tell us that they are able to access services at the right time from the right person and in the right place

Children tell us they have been able to develop trust with their key workers

Parents/carers tell us practitioners have listened and helped them

Children tell us that they have been listened to and involved in their care and service improvement

Practitioners tell us they are confident in local processes and understand what is out there to support children and families

More children will remain in the care of their family unit and will not need to be supported by statutory services

Multi-agency audit highlights that outcomes for children are being met, that there is high quality practice, a good understanding of thresholds and that people are aware of different roles and responsibilities across the partnership

Framework for Action

Providing effective support to children and their parents

Principles

The Framework is underpinned by the following principles:

- Keeping children safe and achieving good outcomes for all, regardless of their needs, is at the heart of what we do
- All practitioners understand their roles and responsibilities in relation to keeping children safe and use the local thresholds to provide the right help and support
- Help and support is developed with the child and their parents, building on the strengths and solutions they identify
- Holistic assessment is the starting point for offering help and support at any level of need and provides the evidence base to inform decisions about the right threshold
- Help and support is offered at the earliest opportunity - the right help, at the right time from the right people
- All agencies work collaboratively using the Framework for Action to promote co-ordinated, effective support to children and their parents and avoid duplication
- A child centred approach is central and takes account of diverse needs of children and their families, including but not limited to gender, ethnicity, culture, special educational need or disability
- High support and high challenge within the multi-agency system is evident and promotes the best outcomes for children
- Partners commit to integrating the threshold document within their existing organisational or sector guidance such as the SEND Handbook, Early Years Delivery Model etc.

Framework for Action

Providing effective support to children and their parents



Continuum of help and support – thresholds for responding

Children and their families views and involvement must be at the heart of our work. The help we give should lead to improvements for children and the earlier we offer help, the better chance there is of it being effective. Bolton's continuum of help aims to build on the existing strengths of a child and their family while ensuring timely, effective support to address need.

The continuum of help and support, 'the windscreen', has been in place for a significant number of years in Bolton. Having a shared model across the partnership not only promotes a shared language and a consistent approach but also informs commissioning of local services.

In Bolton, since the inception of our Area Child Protection Committee's 'Child Concern Model' in 1995 and throughout our journey from a Safeguarding Children Board to the current partnership safeguarding arrangements, we have always promoted and continue to promote the ethos of:

Right help, at the right time, from the right people

Framework for Action

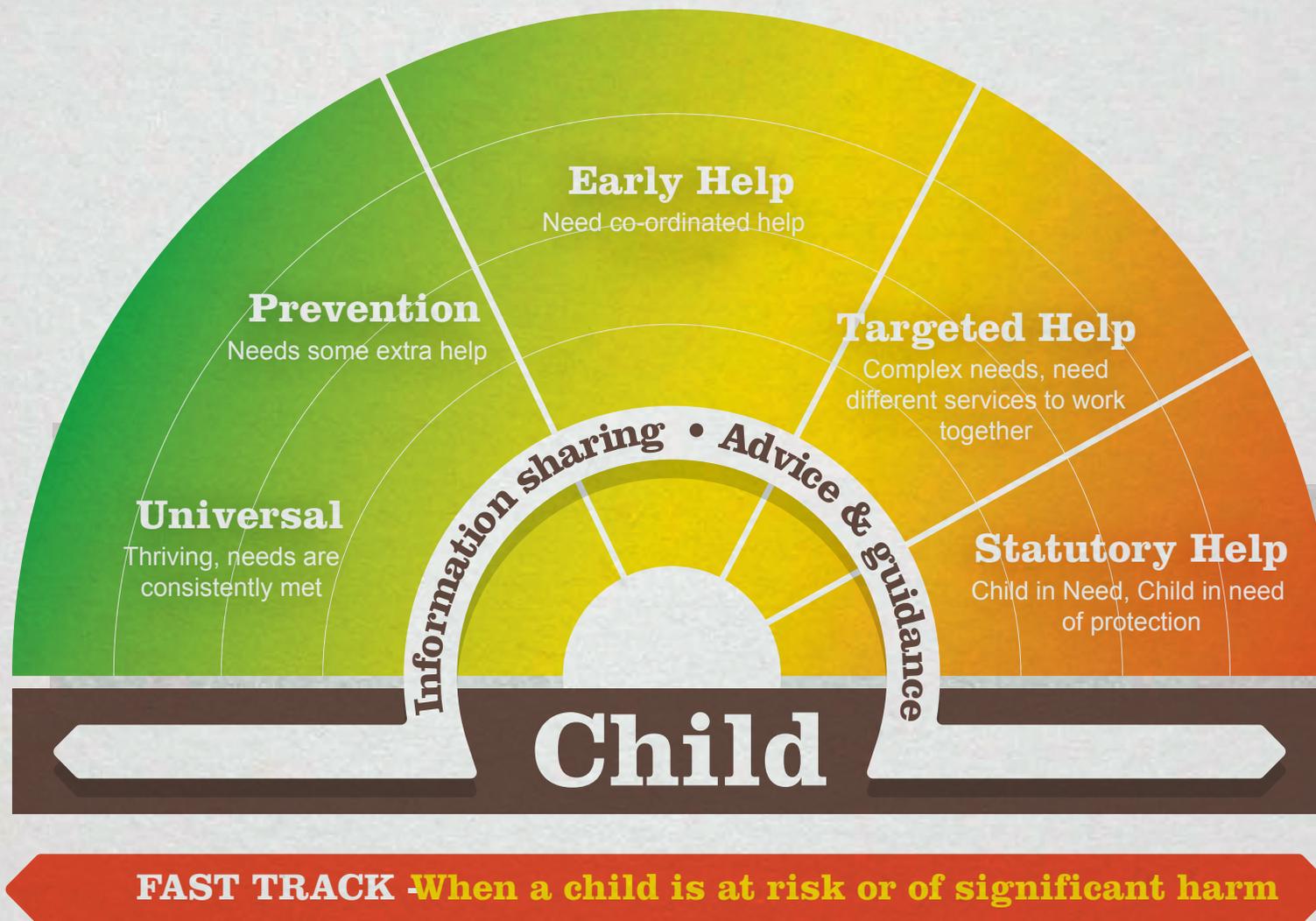
Providing effective support to children and their parents



The thresholds for help and support, as well as the desired outcomes and examples of service response are described as follows:



Help and support continuum



Framework for Action

Providing effective support to children and their parents



**Bolton
Safeguarding
Children**



This document was published on July 2021. All information is correct at the time of production. While every effort has been taken to ensure this tool is accurate and up to date, Bolton Safeguarding Children Partnership will not be held responsible for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience caused by any inaccuracies contained herein.

This is a summary of the larger Threshold Document - “Framework for Action”

For further information please refer to the threshold document “Framework for Action” which can be found at boltonsafeguardingchildren@bolton.gov.uk

If you have concerns about a child please seek further help at boltonsafeguardingchildren.org.uk/worried-child or contact a member of our team on **01204 331500**