

For leaflet “Child Protection -- We All Have a Duty”

Further information on neglect is as follows.

For a healthy development of a child, the following BASIC NEEDS have to be satisfied:

- **Food**

A balanced and nutritious diet appropriate to the age and physical development of the children and good eating habit contributes to proper physical development of children.

- **Personal Hygiene and Cleanliness**

A tidy home environment, clean and tidy clothes, sufficient/appropriate clothing for various weather conditions and necessary medical/mental health treatment are indispensable for the healthy development of children.

- **Home Safety**

To prevent accidents, children should not be left unattended at home and a safe home environment should be ensured. Dangerous items/household drugs should be placed properly in order to prevent children from being harmed by these items.

- **Sleep and Rest**

Providing a tranquil and comfortable sleeping environment and fostering a good sleeping habit will ensure sufficient rest for children that they need.

- **Education**

Providing education will facilitate intellectual development of children. Children with special care/educational needs should be arranged for appropriate assessment, education or training.

Possible Indicators of Neglect

- Physiologically, children may exhibit malnutrition, underweight and signs of delayed physical development
- Infant/pre-school child being left unattended at home
- Frequently absent from school/withdrawal from school without reason or

- sudden loss of contact
- Unattended physical problems or unmet medical/ dental needs
 - Dirty or shabby in appearance and clothing
 - Persistent complaints of hunger, begging for or stealing food
 - Without an adult or appropriate carer at home
 - Poisoning/accidental ingestion of dangerous drugs or hazardous substances
 - Infant/child being exposed to venues with suspected dangerous drugs or drug-taking equipment

Possible Indicators of Parents/Carers Relating to Neglect

- Repeatedly refusing others from approaching the child or forbidding the child to communicate with personnel directly
- Allowing the child to be absent from school persistently or forbidding the child to receive education without sound reasons
- Forbidding the child to receive health/medical follow-ups or check-ups without sound reasons
- Not applying for birth certificate/identification documents for the child without sound reasons
- Taking suspected dangerous drugs in the presence of the child