

Form Submission PDF

CYPS Service Request

Section One	
St Helens Children and Young People's Service Request Form	
Have you used the St Helens descriptions of need document as a tool in completing this referral?	Yes
What is the level of need?	Level 3
Have you discussed your concerns with the parent/carer and subsequently advised them that you are making this referral?	Yes
Has the parent/carer given consent to the referral been made?	Yes

Section Two	
Please provide an overview of the parents/carers response when advised of the referral	Mum does not agree with all the the worries shared in the referral and expressed that she felt the concerns were "been blown out of proportion". Mum does not want to work with CSC as she just wants "people to leave them alone". However she is aware of the concerns in this referral and the process of a referral been made to MASH in relation to information sharing between professionals to determine what needs to happen
What is the full name of parent /carer you have spoken to?	Marge Simpson
Has the parent/carer agreed that key agencies can be contacted by St Helens people services e.g. school, health and police? This may include school being asked to gain an understanding of the child /children's views?	Yes
What is the primary reason for your referral?	Child - Neglect
Any other reasons for making the referral?	Child - Poor School Attendance,Parent/Carer - Domestic Abuse,Parent/Carer - Mental Health Issues,Parent/Carer - Substance Misuse

Section 3	
Is neglect a feature in the child's life?	Yes
Has a graded care profile been completed?	Yes
Is your concern in relation to Harmful sexual behaviour ?	No
Has coordinated level 2 support been offered to the family or an EHAT been completed prior to this referral being made?	Yes
Lead professional details	
Name	Harry Potter
Role	Assistant Headteacher at Hogwarts school
Email	harry.potter@hogwarts.co.uk
Phone	01744 111111
Have you discussed your concerns with the lead professional?	Yes

Section 4 - Referrer details	
Name of Referrer	Harry Potter
Role/Profession	Assistant Headteacher/ EHAT lead
Agency/Organisation	Hogwarts primary school
Office Address	Hogwarts road, St Helens
Office Phone	01744111111
Mobile Phone	08496 444444
Email Address	harry.potter@hogwarts.co.uk

Child and young person details

- Lisa Simpson
- Maggie Simpson
- Bart Simpson
- Unborn Simpson

Children and young person details

Lisa Simpson - DOB: 26/07/2016 Gender: Female (Gender Other:)							
Home Address	ATLAS HOUSE, 2 CORPORATION STREET, ST. HELENS, WA9 1LD,						
Current Address	, , , ,						
Home Phone	01744 677777	Carer Mobile	07486562415	Carer Email	not got one	Child Mobile	not got one
Child's NHS No.	school do not know	Child have an EHCP?	No	Child disabled?	No	Disability Details	N/A
Child's language	English	Interpreter needed?	07486562415	Carer's language	English	Interpreter needed?	No
Child ethnicity	White British	Child nationality	WEL	Child religion	No Religion	Religion Details	
Maggie Simpson - DOB: 26/04/2022 Gender: Female (Gender Other:)							
Home Address	ATLAS HOUSE, 2 CORPORATION STREET, ST. HELENS, WA9 1LD,						
Current Address	, , , ,						
Home Phone	01744 677777	Carer Mobile	07486562415	Carer Email	not got one	Child Mobile	not got one
Child's NHS No.	school do not know	Child have an EHCP?	No	Child disabled?	No	Disability Details	N/A
Child's language	English	Interpreter needed?	07486562415	Carer's language	English	Interpreter needed?	No
Child ethnicity	White British	Child nationality	WEL	Child religion	No Religion	Religion Details	
Bart Simpson - DOB: 01/11/2010 Gender: Male (Gender Other:)							
Home Address	ATLAS HOUSE, 2 CORPORATION STREET, ST. HELENS, WA9 1LD,						
Current Address	, , , ,						
Home Phone	01744 677777	Carer Mobile	07486562415	Carer Email	not got one	Child Mobile	not got one

Child's NHS No.	school do not know	Child have an EHCP?	No	Child disabled?	No	Disability Details	N/A
Child's language	English	Interpreter needed?	07486562415	Carer's language	English	Interpreter needed?	No
Child ethnicity	White British	Child nationality	WEL	Child religion	No Religion	Religion Details	

Unborn Simpson - DOB: 28/11/2024 Gender: Unborn (Gender Other:)

Home Address	ATLAS HOUSE, 2 CORPORATION STREET, ST. HELENS, WA9 1LD,						
Current Address	, , , ,						
Home Phone	01744 677777	Carer Mobile	07486562415	Carer Email	not got one	Child Mobile	unborn
Child's NHS No.	unborn	Child have an EHCP?	No	Child disabled?	No	Disability Details	unborn
Child's language	English	Interpreter needed?	07486562415	Carer's language	English	Interpreter needed?	No
Child ethnicity	White British	Child nationality	GB	Child religion	Information not yet obtained	Religion Details	

Family Genogram	
Do you have a family genogram?	Yes

People in House and Support Network

Marge Simpson - Gender: Female (Gender Other:) - DOB: 26/04/1987 - Status: In House

Relationship	Mother	Parental responsibility	Yes	Risk to children	No	What role	Lives with and cares for all children
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Homer Simpson - Gender: Male (Gender Other:) - DOB: 18/05/1984 - Status: Absent Father

Relationship	Father of Bart, Lisa and Maggie	Parental responsibility	Yes	Risk to children	Yes	What role	Risk due to domestic abuse but no contact since October 2023 when mum and children fled Wales. It is believed dad remains in Wales but his address is not known
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Mo Burns - Gender: Male (Gender Other:) - DOB: 18/12/1990 - Status: In House

Relationship	Father of unborn only	Parental responsibility	No	Risk to children	No	What role	Lives in the home with all children but provides limited care
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Valerie Smith - Gender: Female (Gender Other:) - DOB: 29/08/1954 - Status: Support Network

Relationship	Maternal grandmother	Parental responsibility	No	Risk to children	No	What role	Limited role but will collect the children and take them for tea at her home now and then if Bart contacts her. She does not currently speak to mum due to fall out and she does not visit the family home
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Address (Support network only)	HELENA CENTRAL, 4 CORPORATION STREET, ST. HELENS, WA9 1LD,						
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Family Network

Has the family's existing Support Network, beyond people in the home, been explored and identified?	Yes
Has a family network meeting been convened?	Yes

Please tell us which professionals are already working with the young person(s) and parents/carers	School,School Nurse,Health Visitor,Other
Professional Contact Details	
Contact Details	Home start worker- Daphney Duck 01744333333 School nurse- Pippa Long 01744 444444 Health visitor- Cindy Lauper 01744 777777 School for Bart is St Helens School- Peter Piper attends FAMs 01744 555555

Child(ren) concerns	
	<p>Hogwarts Primary school have been leading an EHAT since October 2023. Initially EHAT was opened due to the family moving to St Helens from Wales following mum fleeing domestic abuse. During the EHAT assessment it was identified that the children have been exposed to domestic abuse in that they witnessed injuries mum suffered including a black eye but they are not known to have been present during violent incidents. Bart and Lisa are aware that dad was "mean to mum" and they have described that he would "shout and swear at her".</p> <p>During the EHAT assessment a graded care profile 2 was completed due to concerns raised by the previous school in Wales (Snowdon Primary) regarding poor school attendance, poor home conditions and missed health appointments for the children. The school in Wales report they were offering support to the family via the family support worker who was collecting the children for school but they did not complete any form of holistic assessment and the children were never open to CSC in Wales. It seems the abuse was only reported to police at the time mum fled so Wales CSC were satisfied mum was safeguarding the children by fleeing to refuge in St Helens.</p> <p>During the EHAT period (7 months) FAMs have been held every 6 weeks and mum has only attended 2 of these, reporting forgetting or been unable to attend due to illness. The family were discussed at level 2 panel in April 2024 and a number of actions were set (detailed below). A review L2 panel was held on 14.6.2024 and it was agreed at this panel that a referral to MASH was needed as professionals considered threshold was met for statutory intervention a per level 3 of the St Helens descriptions of need document.</p> <p>Level 3 indicators considering the St Helens descriptions of need document:</p> <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Non engagement with ante natal care for unborn as mum missed her dating scan on 10th June 2024 and booking appointment had be rearranged three times due to non attendance. - Recurrent missed health appointments -None of the children have had immunisations as mum opted out and Maggie has not had her 2 year development review. There have been 2 planned and 1 unplanned home visits to complete this but mum reports she was unwell or forgot and went out - Lisa has incontinence issues and will soil in school. Lisa has not been taken to 3 appointments made with the incontinence team and on the day the team arranged to see Lisa in school she was off unauthorised. - Concerns about poor diet and dental decay- the children are still not registered with a dentist even though mum has been asked to do this three times during EHAT period. <p>Education</p> <p>Bart's attendance is 62% with 32 sessions unauthorised. St Helens High school have completed weekly home visits and invited mum into school on numerous occasions to look at what the barriers are to Bart attending. Mum has not allowed school into the home address since 16th April 2024 but Bart has been seen on the door step and says he is unwell or just not wanting to attend as he does not like school. It is often the case that Bart will agree to come to school with staff following home visits and when he is in school he is well behaved and seems to enjoy school.</p> <p>Lisa's attendance is 82% with 10 unauthorised sessions. School are aware that Lisa's attendance has started to improve since 1st May as this is when</p>

Bart started bringing Lisa to school. School have not seen mum on the premises since 30th April 2024. Mum reports she is too sick due to the pregnancy to get Lisa to school and is suffering with depression

Identity

- Bart demonstrates low self esteem
- All children have little social relationships outside the home

Family and social relationships

- Bart regularly needs to care for another family member- He cares for Lisa & Maggie and takes Lisa to school

Social presentation

- Both Bart and Lisa present in school with clothing that is unwashed and stains have been noted indicating they are wearing the same uniform for up to a week without it been washed
- Lisa's peers will comment that she smells and this is impacting on her peer relationships. Staff have noted a smell of urine on Lisa even when she has not soiled herself and in response offered her clean underwear. This is provided by school as mum has failed to provide spare underwear although been asked on 3 occasions.

Basic care

- Graded care profile 2 evidences mum and Mo are struggling to provide adequate care to the children (all areas of the tool score 4 or 5 see GCP2 attached to this referral). This tool has been reviewed within the EHAT process and the review evidences that even with the support offered from home start the concerns are escalating and mum and Mo are no longer willing to engage with professionals at level 2.
- Mum's own mental health needs are impacting on her ability to provide appropriate care as mum reports that she suffers with depression and this means she cannot get Lisa to school or attend appointments with professionals in respect of the children's health
- Professionals have serious concerns about Mo's alcohol misuse and the impact of this on his parenting capacity as Lisa has been clear that Mo is often drunk and this makes him "angry and moody". Mark has met with CGL as per action from level 2 panel but he doesn't feel that he has a drink problem. He acknowledges his drinking has increased since finding out about the pregnancy but does not want to discuss this further and he does not feel there is any impact on the children as he mostly attends the pub to drink.
- Failure to prepare for parent hood as parents are not happy about the unplanned pregnancy and Marge reports Mo is "pushing" her to have a termination.

Family history and functioning/ Ensuring safety

Both Mo and Marge have a history of domestic abuse in previous relationships. Police at level 2 panel confirmed Marge is the victim of abuse from her ex-partner, Homer- dad to the children and the abuse was high risk with Marge fleeing domestic abuse in Wales- 1 reported incident. The children did witness mum with injuries and are aware these were caused by dad. The children and Marge have not had contact with dad since this time and he is not aware where they are currently living.

Police advise Mo is GOLD domestic abuse perpetrator to 3 previous partners between 2016 and 2023.

CGL and EHAT lead have met with Mo in the home to try to explore his childhood, but Mo says that it was "fine". He reports he moved to St Helens from Liverpool 1 year ago when his relationship broke down and he was living in the YMCA prior to meeting Marge in December 2023 and moving into the family home in January 2024. Mo has no other children of his own.

There are no reported incident between Mo and Marge. However voice of the child from Bart indicates that Mo is abusive to Marge (see below section)

A joint visit has been completed with S2S outreach worker, Susan on 29th April 2024 but mum refused to engage in discussions reporting only that her relationship with Mo is better than the one she had with Homer and that she needs Mo and cannot cope with the children or provide for them on her own. MERIT assessment therefore could not be progressed.

What are you worried about?

Wider family

There is little family support in St Helens as Mo reports his family are all in Liverpool and he doesn't speak to them and Paternal family are in Wales with no contact due to mum fleeing domestic abuse.

Maternal grandmother lives in St Helens but mum reports no relationship with her after a falling out in December 2023 regarding her father's will and she does not visit the family home. Nan, Valerie does collect the children from school on occasion (less than once per month) and this is usually following Bart calling her to arrange this. Mum declined a family network meeting and did not want nan included in the EHAT.

Housing

The family home is privately rented and as per graded profile 2 the conditions scored 5 and there has been a significant decline during the EHAT period and mostly since Marge became pregnant. Joint visit was completed with Home start worker, Lisa on 27.2.2024 following the first level 2 panel. Mum did consent to the support which initially seemed to progress positively as mum was allowing the worker weekly access to the home and work was started with mum in relation to routines, boundaries and improving home conditions. Mo did not wish to engage and when he was home during visits he would leave. The home start worker has supported with the completion of the Graded care profile 2.

However on 5th June 2024 mum refused to continue working with Homestart and she will no longer allow home start or school access to the home (2 further attempts made on 7th and 13th June 2024) reporting neither she or Mo want this as it is an intrusion into their private family life. This change seems to have happened since the worker was honest with mum that conditions in the home were declining and mum was challenged that the same dirty dishes had been in the living room for over 1 week. The last successful visit was on 5th June 2024. Maggie (aged 2) opened the door in a nappy. Mum was lay on the sofa asleep and seemed unaware Maggie had opened the door as she asked how the worker got in.

Following concerns were highlighted from observations during the visit: The home conditions are poor- there are dirty dishes with mould on in the living room. There are lots of dirty clothes strewn about, there are bags of rubbish in the living room and Maggie was playing with some of this rubbish. The floor was dirty with mud stains, bits from the cat litter tray could be seen and lots of general bits such as hairs and crumbs. Maggie was eating the food after dropping it with no intervention from Marge. Marge refused for the home start worker to go upstairs or into the kitchen and asked them to leave.

Maggie had a very soiled nappy during the visit and Marge needed prompting to change this- by the time the worker left she hadn't yet changed it but said she was going to once she'd been the shop for nappies.

Bart

Bart presents as a quiet young man with few friends. He says he does not see any friends outside of school and is mostly in his bedroom playing xbox or looking after Lisa and Maggie. In relation to Maggie- Bart says he gets her breakfast, helps her wash and plays with her while mum is sleeping. Bart says that he takes Lisa to school as mum can't because she's not well and he commented that Lisa is safe in school. When asked if she is safe at home Bart said "yes sometimes but not always". When asked what is unsafe at home he said "Mo and his moods and it scares Lisa when Mo is shouting at mum".

Bart often appears distracted in lessons and has to be reminded to stay on task. Bart is not yet meeting his age related expectations but school strongly feel this is due to lessons he is missing and that he does not have any additional needs that are impacting on his attainment.

Direct work has been completed with Bart in school on a fortnightly basis during the EHAT period. Bart initially was very guarded but during the last session on 12th June 2024 he expressed that he doesn't like Mo as all he does is go the pub and when he gets home he is just moody and angry. Bart appeared reluctant to talk about Mo and his body language appeared uncomfortable when his name was mentioned- Bart began to fidget and pick his nails. Bart did say that Mo is just like his dad and he is worried about his mum when he is not at home with her. Bart then said he didnt want to talk anymore and when asked if Mo had hurt his mum he said "no- don't know".

How is the child being affected?

Lisa

Lisa presents as confident and happy in school. She has lots of friends but some of her peers have started to comment that she smells and this is impacting on her peer relationships. Lisa says she doesn't play with anyone outside of school other than Bart and Maggie. She says she doesn't play with mum as mum "is sleeping" and doesn't play with Mo as he is "a drinker, mean and moody". She says she has no family as Mo says they cannot come. When asked further about Mo, Lisa became uncomfortable and was shifting around in her seat. She said Mo is "shouty to her mum and he says Lisa and Maggie should shut up with their noise". Lisa identified the person she would have on her dessert island with her would be "just Bart". Lisa would like to go to nan's more but mum says no.

It is a worry that the support offered to the family at level over 7 months has not progressed and in fact concerns in relation to neglect and domestic abuse have increased. There is no reported domestic abuse between mum and Mo but the children's voices suggest that abuse is happening although we do not know the extent as MERIT assessment could not be completed. We know that mum did not contact the police previously when she was suffering abuse from Homer and only did this at the point she could no longer cope and had to flee, even though she had suffered injuries from him previously. Mum has not completed any work in respect of domestic abuse and therefore it is possible that she is unable to recognise the abuse she is currently suffering or she may be aware of it but feel unable to escape due to her isolation in St Helens and clear struggles with mental health and been pregnant. Mum entered the relationship with Mo quickly and moved him into the family home within two months and this suggests she is possibly scared to live alone, scared to say no to him or this could be due to her fleeing abuse from Homer and fear he will find her. Therefore without CSC intervention it is likely the abuse will continue or escalate to the point the children could suffer emotional or physical harm, particularly if Bart was to intervene to try and help his mum.

It is possible that the domestic abuse Marge is suffering is impacting on her mental health and thus parenting capacity and as a result the children are suffering neglect. All efforts to engage mum in support at level 2 have been exhausted and the concerns are escalating as evidenced by the graded care profile 2. Therefore without statutory intervention the children will continue to suffer neglect

What is working well?

Mum did work with professionals from school and Home start from October 2023 to January 2024 and therefore it is possible this could be achieved again. However it seems her engagement has been impacted by Mo moving into the family home

EHAT has been in place for 7 months with family discussed at level 2 panel on two occasions.

Mum does clearly love her children and they love her

Bart and Lisa have a very close relationship.

Lisa and Bart are attending school although attendance is poor.

Lisa and Bart have completed safety planning in school and they know they can call the police on 999 or seek support from a neighbour if ever they are scared or in need of help at home

Bart says he would contact nan if he needed a break from home and she would let them go to hers for abit

Lisa and Bart know that they have professionals in school they can come to anytime if they have worries

- Mum to engage with professionals from Safe2speak to better understand the relationship she has with Mo and make mum more aware of the domestic abuse she has previously and is currently suffering and the impact this is having on her and her children
- Mo to engage with professionals so we can understand his life history and work with him in relation to his abusive behaviours and alcohol misuse
- Incontinence team to be able to support Lisa in order for us to have a better understanding of what is causing her soiling and address this
- Lisa and Bart to present in school with clean clothes

<p>What needs to happen next?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lisa and Bart to have attendance that is more than 90% and achieve their educational milestones - Lisa, Bart and Maggie to have social activities and integrate with young people in the community - all children to be registered with the dentist - Maggie to have her 2 year development review <p>Overall we would like to see mum and Mo engaging with professionals to reduce the worries in relation to domestic abuse, alcohol misuse and poor mental health.</p> <p>We would like to see the children attending school regularly, attending all their health appointments, looking well cared for and not being distracted and worried about abuse mum is suffering at home. We would like to be reassured the children feel safe and happy at home and that they are not witnessing domestic abuse</p>
<p>Interim Action plan: What support can you provide before receiving a response from children's social care?</p>	<p>School will continue to promote the children's engagement in education, being honest with mum about any worries that arise and continue to complete home visits when the children are absent from school</p> <p>School will continue to complete direct work with the children to understand their home life and allow them the opportunity to express any worries in a safe space</p> <p>School will continue to support school nurse and other professionals to engage mum so the children attend all necessary appointments</p> <p>School will attend any meetings required</p>
<p>On a scale of 0-10 where 10 means the child(ren) is safe and 0 means things are so bad that the child(ren) is not safe, where do you rate the situation?</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>Please explain your answer</p>	<p>All professionals at level 2 panel scored 3 due to concerns that we do not have a true and full understanding of what the children have previously been exposed to when they lived in Wales and also what they are currently being exposed to in respect of domestic abuse. Although the children are attending school this is irregular and when they are not in school professionals are struggling to gain access to the home to ensure the children are safe and well. It is likely mum is being controlled by Mo and her refusal to engage with professionals currently is making her even more isolated and unlikely to report any abuse- therefore it could be a matter of time before they are exposed to a significant domestic incident that could cause them physical or emotional harm. The Graded care profile 2 evidences that the children are suffering neglect and without intervention or recognition from mum about the concerns this is likely to escalate further</p>