

Child Neglect: How to spot the signs

Neglect isn't always easy to spot, and each sign on its own doesn't necessarily mean a child is being neglected. However, it is important to note that if you notice multiple signs consistently and over a long period of time, it might indicate a more serious problem. We have detailed some of the signs below.

Being smelly or dirty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Being hungry or not given money for food	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having unwashed clothes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having the wrong clothing, such as no warm clothes in winter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having frequent and untreated nappy rash in infants	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anaemia	<input type="checkbox"/>
Body issues, such as poor muscle tone or prominent joints	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medical or dental issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Missed medical appointments, such as for vaccinations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not given the correct medicines	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor language or social skills	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular illness or infections	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repeated accidental injuries, often caused by lack of supervision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skin issues, such as sores, rashes, flea bites, scabies or ringworm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thin or swollen tummy	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tiredness	<input type="radio"/>
Untreated injuries	<input type="radio"/>
Weight or growth issues	<input type="radio"/>
Living in an unsuitable home environment, such as having no heating	<input type="radio"/>
Being left alone for a long time	<input type="radio"/>
Taking on the role of carer for other family members	<input type="radio"/>
Becoming clingy	<input type="radio"/>
Becoming aggressive	<input type="radio"/>
Being withdrawn, depressed or anxious	<input type="radio"/>
Changes in eating habits	<input type="radio"/>
Displaying obsessive behaviour	<input type="radio"/>
Finding it hard to concentrate or take part in activities	<input type="radio"/>
Missing school	<input type="radio"/>
Showing signs of self-harm	<input type="radio"/>
Using drugs or alcohol	<input type="radio"/>

For more information on safeguarding children, please visit:
www.virtual-college.co.uk/courses/safeguarding-courses