

Action Required by GP if child Was not Brought (WNB) to appointment with GP or other healthcare setting

Child is not brought to appointment at surgery or GP receives notification that child “Was Not Brought” to an external appointment and no further action by provider has been taken regarding this.

Use snomed code “Child was not brought to appointment” on clinical system and arrange Assessment by GP

GP reviews the records and completes holistic assessment of child’s needs to consider the following:

- Potential impact of WNB on health and well-being of child?
- Any Safeguarding concerns? Could this be an indicator of neglect?
- Have they missed previous appointments Please note: Missing the 6-8 week check has been a factor in several child deaths in Somerset so please pay particular attention to WNB for this appointment
- Any issues impacting on parenting ability of Carers? Or access to the appointment?

No Significant risk of harm identified:

- Rearrange appointment if necessary
- Consider re-referral if child not being taken to an external appointment resulted in discharge.
- If necessary contact parents by letter or phone to inform of plan.
- Document decision.
- Take to Safeguarding Meeting if required
- (to follow up with MDT including H/V or School Nurse)

Risk of harm identified:

- Telephone contact with parents/ carers ideally on same working day to discuss reasons for not attending and to facilitate future appointments
- Discuss ASAP with Health Visitor, School Nurse or Social Worker (if family has one allocated)
- Use “Effective Support for Children and Families” document: Early Help Assessment (EHA) and Supporting Documents – Professional Choices and the “Neglect Toolkit”: Neglect – SSCP (safeguardingsomerset.org.uk) to help in decision making
- Make any appropriate early help or safeguarding referral
- Document all actions taken
- If WNB relates to another healthcare provider, communicate concerns with them in timely manner and record what actions they have taken. Have a system in place to ensure that actions taken have been effective

Dr Jo Nicholl

Named GP Safeguarding Children & Adults

Somerset CCG

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