

## Understand

# Safeguarding adolescents includes understanding the wider contexts of adolescent lives outside the family, and theories of adolescent development

### Adolescents with no additional needs = Good Outcomes

Adolescents with no additional needs; health and developmental needs are met by universal services. These adolescents consistently receive support from their parents and the community. Most of these adolescents require support from universal services alone.

### Tier 2 Emerging needs

We make a distinction between **Good Outcomes** - no additional needs - and **Emerging needs** to reflect those adolescents who have low level risks, including risks outside the family context and low-level SEND, whose additional needs can be met by a single agency in universal services.

### Tier 2: Early Help - Multiple needs

Adolescents with additional needs may be showing early signs of abuse, neglect, or risk of harm outside the family. Adolescents may have SEND. Their needs may be not clear, known, diagnosed, and/or not being met. This is the threshold for a multi-agency assessment. These adolescents require a lead professional for a co-ordinated approach to the provision of services. These will be provided within universal or targeted provision and do not include services from Children's Social Care.

### Tier 3: Adolescents with complex needs - Complex needs

Adolescents require specialist services to achieve or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development or to prevent significant impairment of their health and development and/or who have SEND. They may require longer term intervention from intensive or specialist services. This is the threshold for an assessment led by Children's Social Care under Section 17, Children Act 1989 although the assessments and services required may come from provision outside of Children's Social Care, such as the Youth Offending Team or PCC Targeted Service.

### Tier 4: Adolescents in acute need = Level 4 Acute needs

Adolescents who are suffering or who are likely to suffer significant harm. A statutory assessment is required. Adolescents are likely to have already experienced adverse effects and to be suffering poor outcomes. This tier also includes Tier 4 health services which are very specialised services in residential, day patient or outpatient settings for children and adolescents with severe and/or complex health problems. This is likely to mean they are referred to Children's Social Care under section 20, 47 or 31 of the Children Act 1989<sup>1</sup>. This would also include those adolescents remanded into custody and statutory youth offending services.