

**NEXT STEP CARE MANAGEMENT LTD**

Parent & Baby



**Every Parent Counts**  
**Every Baby Counts**

**Give a baby a voice**

## We contract with social services with the following explicit aims:

- To tailor our support packages and accommodation to meet individual parents and child's individual needs.
- Support around feeding, bathing and dressing babies and youngest children, changing nappies and preparing bottles or baby food
- Nurture their children's natural curiosity.
- Consulting and attending meetings with other professionals, e.g. Social Workers, Midwives/Health Visitors, or Drug/Alcohol Agencies.
- Building relationships with parents and other family members to enable them to support their child's development.
- Support Parents to encourage their child(ren) to develop social skills and discover more about the world through play and exploration.
- Adapt support around the ages and stages of a child's development.
- To provide parents with the chances to make informed choices about their lives and explore the consequences of these choices.
- To ensure that we only use staff who can demonstrate Knowledge in child development, Domestic Violence and its impact on children, Parental Substance misuse, mental Health and Learning Disabilities, community involvement, Criminal Justice System, advocacy, motivational techniques, parenting, sexual health and birth control etc.
- To provide assessments, planning and review documents as specified by the Commissioning Authority.
- Observing and assessing the child and producing detailed written reports on the progress of parental capacity.
- To attend regular meetings with referring agencies to discuss any progress and issues of the parents ability to parent their baby/child appropriately.
- To offer 24 hour telephone service with one of our trained and experienced Support Workers.

### **Social Presentation**

It is imperative for the health and development of the child that the family environment and their personal presentation is of a neat, clean hygienic standard. The young parent will need to develop an understanding of the way in which appearance, behaviour and any impairment is perceived by the outside world and the impression being created.

This would include the appropriateness of dress for age, gender, culture and religion, cleanliness and personal hygiene and availability of advice from parents and caregivers about presentation in different settings.

### **Self-Care Skills**

The Child is completely reliant upon their Parents/caregivers to perform all self-care tasks for them including and not limited to ensuring that :

- An acceptable level of personal hygiene is established and maintained to prevent illness or infection.
- The Child is fed age appropriate food of nutritional quality to ensure the development in all areas
- The Child's emotional needs are tended to in a timely and age appropriate manner due to the child being unable to self-soothe and requiring parent/caregiver comfort/connection.

### **Next Step will also:**

- Encourage and support relationships with Support agencies and other professionals.
- Encourage positive social networking.
- Provide accommodation or support in securing good accommodation (If required).
- Promote personal and domestic hygiene.
- Promote Health.
- Support in budgeting/Financial.
- Promote training, education, recreation, employment as appropriate.
- Promote families positive and emotional and physical well-being.

- Will implement Task Centred and Solution Focused Methods of working with parent(s) to explore and support them to achieve their goals in meeting the needs of the child and finding solutions to their problems.

"Services which address problems faced by parent(s) such as Domestic Abuse, substance use and mental illness will not automatically lead to improvements in the care of babies. Such services need to be combined with work which explicitly aims to promote secure attachments, positive relationships and good parenting" (NSPCC.org.uk, 2011).

### **NSCM Aims to support parents to meet the following baby/child's identified needs:**

#### **Health**

The baby will need appropriate care to enable physical growth and development. In order to highlight any potential problems parents will need to attend all appointments for the baby and be alert and responsive to any potential dangers or ill health which might arise.

#### **Educational Needs**

The baby/child will require a care giver who will actively stimulate the child mentally as well as physically to ensure that development is promoted. This would be included but no limited to:

- The parent/caregiver regularly speaking to the child to ensure that some of the groundwork for language development has been laid and the child and their parents(s) develop a bond via this method of communication.
- The child be stimulated by being provided colourful toys/interesting sounds or items in the vicinity to ensure that their physical and gross motor development (i.e. raising of head) is promoted as well as identifying certain sounds, colours etcetera to ensure sensory development.
- To meet developmental milestones.

### **Emotional and behavioural development**

The child has a significant amount of emotional needs including:

- To experience/establish and maintain a positive bonding experience between child and its parents to ensure foundations of a trusting relationship and security within this relationship are formed.
- The parents providing affection by holding them appropriately and gently caressing and speaking in a soft manner with them whilst looking at one another. This behaviour particularly promotes the child to feel secure and loved.
- The parent to provide an environment which is founded on stability and routine to ensure that the child can begin to establish a trusting

#### **Identity**

The child will need to have opportunities to learn who they are in relation to their parents/caregivers and wider family, to be included in family activities and valued as an individual.

All Children are part of family and community networks which will have a district culture that will differ from others in their locality, city and country. Whilst in utero, there are no clearly identifiable needs that the unborn child has in relation to developing and establishing a sense of identity.

Following the birth however, it is acknowledged that it is imperative that a child develops and nurtures a sense of belonging and identity in order to understand and relate to the world around him/her.

#### **Family and Social Relationships**

The Child will need to develop relationships that are nurturing and supportive within the wider family, in time, including family celebrations and outings, to gain a sense of belonging and enable the child to develop an understanding of its heritage.

It is the responsibility of the main caregiver, family and wider community networks to provide and example appropriate attitudes, views and behaviours in various aspects of life, being non-discriminatory, having appropriate relationships with each other, respect for authority and encouraging aspirations to enable the child to reach their full potential.

## Elements of Service Provision

- Multi-agency Working
- Good quality one/two/three bedroom flat/house in chosen/appropriate areas.
- £50 Baby Starter Pack (nappies, wipes, creams formula etc.
- Toy package Inc. Play quilt, baby gym etc.
- Freephone on-call number.
- 1 hour to 24/7 face to face outreach support.
- Personal Safety advice/ support.
- Preparation of reports for CIN, Case Conference Reviews, Care Proceedings.
- Monthly/Quarterly Reports and Updates.
- Worksheets provided for parents and Support Worker to engage in together.
- Regular observations and feedback provisions.
- Sleep- in/Waking staff each night (If Required).
- Use of Social Baby DVD.
- Positive reinforcement.
- PAMS Assessments.
- Modelling.
- End of Placement Report.

## Next Step Parent(s) and Baby Outreach Support.

### Philosophy:

Next Step Care Management Ltd (NSCM) philosophy is based upon a belief that all babies and Children should remain with their parents wherever possible. It is believed that the parents should be given every opportunity to demonstrate change and parental capacity in a safe and supporting environment and within adequate timescales for the child's development.

Our programmes of support are designed to offer parents the opportunity to be supported in meeting the holistic needs of their baby/child, whilst addressing and engaging in services that can also address their own needs and issues that might affect their ability to parent their child appropriately thus placing their child (ren) at risk of significant harm.

Our programmes are adapted to support parent(s) to meet the child's emotional and physical needs in a consistent and stable environment and promote the healthy attachments needed for children to play a full, meaningful and appropriate part in society and form worthwhile relationships with those around him/her.

### Aims

NSCM aims to provide a range of accommodation and/or services for parent(s) with their Babies who are attempting to live independently in the Community and demonstrate that they can provide a safe and nurturing environment for their child (ren). Outreach Support can be negotiated and tailored to meet the needs of the Local Authority, the Parent(s) and the Child.

Support and on-going assessment will focus upon the three interrelated domains covering Parenting Capacity, Childs Developmental Needs, Social and Family and Environmental Factors.

Next Step Staff will also liaise with other involved agencies, if required by Local Authority, and promote and encourage service user engagement with those recognised support agencies.





Support can be put in place with immediate effect of baby discharge if required, or at any time during the initial pre-birth planning stages.

Where there are concerns about a parent's capacity to care for their baby appropriately for whatever reasons, we have Outreach Support Workers who can provide a comprehensive assessment of the Parent(s) parenting abilities in her home — a setting that is often more comfortable and natural for the parent than a Mother and Baby residential unit or foster placement.

In some cases such a supported independence placement can be more revealing than the artificial environment of Mother and Baby Foster placement. Where there are serious child protection concerns, close monitoring and direct support work will be undertaken by qualified workers who have experience in a statutory child protection environment.

All Next Step Staff who will be providing the service will be qualified and experienced Next Step members of staff in child care and have completed Child Protection Training. Assessments, monitoring and reports, are based firmly upon the Framework of Assessment for Children in Need and their Families.

Assessment is not a static process and Next step will continue the process of assessment as part of a therapeutic way of working. An assessment has many purposes, It should inform future work and evaluate the progress of interventions.

The way in which the assessment is carried out is also important and it should enable those involved to gain fresh perspectives on their family situation, which are in themselves therapeutic.

All parents have access to the Next Step 24-Hour Outreach on-call help line. All Next

Step staff are familiar with The Parenting Assessment Manual Software and this will be utilised by staff that would have undergone in house training on how to use this Assessment tool.



## Contact:

Mel Deen

Telephone: 01952 258064

Mobile: 07967 311812

Email: [mel@nextstep-caremanagement.co.uk](mailto:mel@nextstep-caremanagement.co.uk)