

JOINT AGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST FOR SUSPECTED SUICIDE IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (CYP)

Who is this document for?

- Any professional who may be part of a joint agency response in cases of suspected suicide

Purpose of the document

- To provide a prompt to professionals on questions to ask when speaking with families after a child or young person has died and suicide is suspected
- To ensure as much detail as possible is collected for inclusion in the report to the coroner. This will enable good postvention support to the family and others who knew the child following death. It will also enable quick escalation of any concerns to a national level to support fast action e.g. removal of content from social media platforms

How to use this document

- This document can be added to local SUDIC protocols and printed out if needed.

Checklist

Events surrounding death	<input type="checkbox"/> Who found the CYP, where when and how? <input type="checkbox"/> What was the appearance of the CYP when found? <input type="checkbox"/> Who called emergency services? <input type="checkbox"/> When was the CYP last seen alive and by whom/where? <input type="checkbox"/> Details of any resuscitation at home, by ambulance crew, and in hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Details of circumstances around the death including any witnesses <input type="checkbox"/> Are the details of the circumstances of death in accordance with the developmental stage of the CYP? Could the CYP have managed to do this unaided? (This is particularly relevant for CYP with disabilities) <u>Indicators of intent to die by suicide</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Was there a suicide note? (Written or electronic) <input type="checkbox"/> Had the CYP made any statements to others that they intended to take their own life? <input type="checkbox"/> What was the method of suicide?
Detailed narrative account of last 24-48 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Give a detailed account of the last 24-48 hours including all activities, social contact and routines as known by the family. <input type="checkbox"/> Were there any particularly stressful events? <input type="checkbox"/> How was the CYP mood and behaviour?
Health history and risks	<u>Mental health and physical health history</u> <input type="checkbox"/> What, if any, physical or mental health conditions did the CYP have? (previous/current)

	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Give details of any current or previous contact with Child and Young People’s Mental Health Services (CYPMHS)¹ or substance misuse services including if referred and on waiting list.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If the CYP was under the care of a mental health trust or provider, please include the name of the trust or provider.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Was the CYP under the care of their GP or private counsellor/therapist for assessment or treatment of mental health needs? (previous / current or awaiting)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Has the CYP ever been admitted to a CYPMH inpatient bed or detained under the MHA?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did the CYP have a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and/or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or other neuro-developmental condition or Learning Disability.</p> <p><u>Vulnerabilities and risk-taking behaviours:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Has the CYP previously self-harmed (including self-poisoning), experienced suicidal ideation or attempted suicide? If yes, please describe when and how many instances</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Have there been any other suspected or confirmed suicides in the CYP’s education/social circles?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did the CYP take any alcohol or drugs (including prescription drugs)? If yes, give details of what was taken and how regularly</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Were any drugs or alcohol consumed in the 48 hours before death? If yes, please give details</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did the CYP access any social media platforms, chatrooms or websites with suicide related content?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did the CYP experience any bullying or cyber-bullying? If yes, please give details of any social media involvement including what (known) social media platforms were used and whether there were any concerning interactions/content on there.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Had the CYP ever been subject to school suspension or exclusion / or truanted from school or college.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did the CYP experience any difficulties because of their gender identity / sexual identity</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Had the CYP experienced any significant relationship losses e.g. due to bereavement, relationship break down etc</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Had the CYP had any contact with social care services? (previous/current) Or been adopted/fostered/looked after? This should include kinship and guardian carers.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Had the CYP ever runaway or been reported missing?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Had the CYP ever been in contact with the law/criminal justice system?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did the CYP have support from any other service (including voluntary or 3rd sector services) or were they a member of any other network/community e.g. faith or LGBTQ communities etc.</p>
<p>Family and social history of the CYP</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> What is the household composition?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did the CYP regularly spend time in more than one household?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did any family members or carers have any previous or current physical or mental health conditions? If yes, did any of these things impact on the child’s relationship with their parent or their role as carer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Did any family members or carers have alcohol or substance misuse problems?</p>

¹ Previously known as CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Was there conflict in family relationships or concerns about household functioning including domestic violence?<input type="checkbox"/> Are there any concerns the CYP experienced abuse or neglect (emotional, psychological, physical or sexual) of any kind?<input type="checkbox"/> Were there any issues with the CYP's immigration status?<input type="checkbox"/> Was the CYP an asylum seeker? Where they accompanied or unaccompanied?
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