

SCHOOL

Background

A GCP2 was commenced with a mum who had recently moved to Surrey, fleeing domestic abuse. There were many children within this family, 3 of whom went to the same school. There were concerns immediately about the physical presentation of children whereby they were dirty with matted hair and head lice.

How was GCP2 introduced?

Mum had expressed that she was unhappy with her house and so the HSLW introduced the GCP2 as a way of exploring the quality of care that the children were receiving, including housing, and that this would show where the family needed support.

How was the GCP2 completed?

Mum engaged directly with the HSLW during 4 visits at home and at school to complete the GCP2. During the GCP2, it became clear that there were significant concerns about all of the children's care across most areas within the tool. The HSLW also became concerned about mum not telling her the truth and potential disguised compliance. Mum started to miss a couple of appointments with the school, and it transpired that she had left the children for a few days on their own, as disclosed by the children. As a result, a Request for Support was made to Children's Single Point of Access, which included all of the collated information and evidence from the GCP2 so far.

What was the outcome?

As a result of the Request for Support, a Section 47 investigation took place by Children's Services and the children were placed on a Child Protection Plan. The family have now moved out of county, and a new local authority are working with the family. However the children still remain at school, and since the GCP2 the children's physical appearance and their attendance at school has improved. Despite the HSLW making the referral to C-SPA, mum still proactively engages with both her and the school and a positive relationship has been maintained.

The HSLW is adamant that although the GCP2 report hadn't been completed at the time of the Request for Support being made, the information gathered during the GCP2 process was included within the referral and this had been crucial in helping Children's Services to act swiftly and put measures in place to protect the children.

GCP2 offers all agencies a robust language and framework to assess concerns regarding the quality of children's care. This consequently provides improved and more consistent identification and response to concerns of neglect across the entire partnership.



Registered charity numbers
216401 and SC037717

