

# Physical Abuse

## Background:

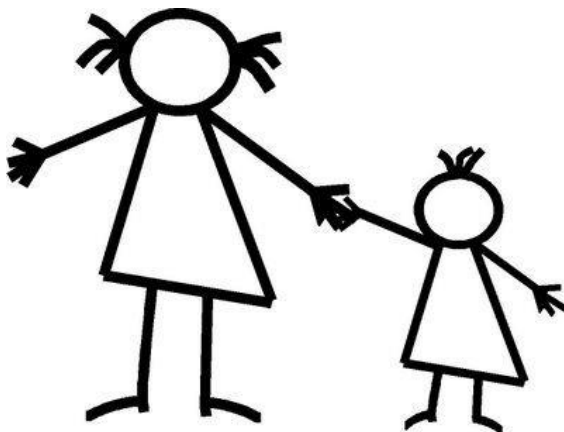
In November 2022 a deep dive audit was undertaken to look at the multi-agency response to 7 children for whom there were concerns about physical abuse using a deep dive method. This included looking at 2 children who were in receipt of early help, 2 children who had Child in Need Plans and 3 children who had Child Protection Plans.

## Good Practice

- Evidence of strong practice in including the voice of the child and their emotional wellbeing in some referrals
- The service user feedback obtained from parents/carers was very positive
- University Hospitals Birmingham demonstrated strong practice in exploring what life is like for children.

## The audit findings remind us to:

- Ensure practitioners across the multi-agency workforce are familiar with the Birmingham and Solihull Child Protection Medical Assessment Pathway
- Support more effective frontline practice when working with physical abuse concerns by keeping timelines of involvement
- Consider coercion and control of children and young people at risk of or experiencing physical abuse particularly in relation to retracting allegations of historical abuse.
- Think about all children living in the household and any children in contact with the family concerned where risk or experience of physical abuse has been identified.



**Child Protection Medical  
Assessment Pathway**  
Toolkit for Practitioners

