

7 Minute Guide: Multi-Agency Chronologies (MAC) in the Child Protection and Safeguarding

Process

please note: MAC is mandatory for children on CP plans for neglect but can be used in other forums such as Children in Need and Team Around the Family.

7. At the Child Protection Review Conference

The MAC will be presented as a separate document and will serve to inform decision-making/change of plan at any given point in the child protection process.

6. At Core Group

The Core Group will use the MAC as a tool to assessing progress made/strengths and identify impact of continued harm. The MAC will be updated, prior to or at each Core Group meeting.

1. At the Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC)

The Chair of the ICPC, will explain that all participating agencies are required to complete a chronology and that they will receive an email with a link to the MAC Portal.

A Multi-Agency Chronology (MAC) is an intervention tool to evidence the **lived experience of children** experiencing neglect or where neglect is an emerging issue of concern. The MAC tool was a key recommendation from an Oxfordshire Serious Case Review and forms one of the key interventions as part of the 2021 OSCB Neglect Strategy.

A MAC gives a deeper understanding of the lived experience of the child(ren), the impact of key events and frequency of professional contact, e.g. a single incident may take on a far greater importance in the life of a child when placed in the context of a clear, time lined integrated chronology

5. Involving the family in the MAC

The Social Worker will share the MAC with the family to obtain their perspective on events and develop understanding of the impact on the family.

2. Following the ICPC

The Safeguarding and Reviewing Administrator will notify the relevant team that a MAC needs to be completed. Copying in the relevant Business Support Team Leader, all agencies (including those invited but unable to attend), within 24 hours of the conference. The MAC will then be discussed at the initial core group.

3. Prior to the 2nd Core Group Meeting

All participating agencies to complete their chronology in the MAC Portal, there is no requirement to email the MAC contribution as this is automatically populated into children's information system known as LCS, 10 working days prior to the 2nd Core Group Meeting.

4. Collating the MAC

The Team Administrator will email the allocated Social Worker, 5 working days prior to the Core Group, to confirm the MAC is completed by all agencies along with any contributions outstanding. Following review and initial analysis, the Social Worker will approve the MAC.