

"Our task is not to put the greatness back into humanity but to elicit it, for the greatness is there already." John Buchan







Head Teachers' Leadership Academy | Scenarios

Tracey and Tam

Tracey and Tam have two children. Neither parent is in employment. Darren, seven, is on a waiting list for undiagnosed additional support needs. He struggles to concentrate and is a real livewire. He survives on four to five hours sleep a night. School attendance is less than 50%. Dad has a physical disability, so struggles to keep up with his son at times in addition to suffering from mental and physical exhaustion. Tracey has poor mental health and a current diagnosis of post-natal depression following the birth of nine-month-old Kyle. Tracey has admitted she needs support to a nursery worker with whom she has a good relationship but is scared to ask as she doesn't want her children to be taken into care. Tracey is care-experienced and has limited support around her.

A neighbour reports concerns about the family and regular, late-night shouting matches. They are visited by a social worker who notes there are no carpets and minimal furniture. Tracey admits they have been selling possessions to make ends meet. After the social worker leaves, a row erupts with shouting and banging noises heard by neighbours. Darren is seen running away. The police arrive to find Tracey in high distress and Tam with a cut to his head.

Which short term and longer-term interventions must follow?

How might services work closely to support the family? What might impede the support needed being provided?











