**Calderdale MBC Parent-Carer Needs Assessment.**

A parent-carer is a parent of a child whose impairments mean that the parent’s caring responsibilities are different from other parents. Parent-carers have separate needs from their children and have a right to have them assessed separately under the Carer’s (equal opportunities) Act (2004). In practice parent-carers’ needs will be addressed during the disabled child's assessment. In Calderdale we call this the Single Assessment.

If you do not wish to complete this form but want to have a face to face discussion about your parent-carer needs please contact your child’s lead professional.

If you do not wish to have parent-carers need assessment please sign below:

I do not wish to have an assessment of my parent-carer needs:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name Date

Please complete this form if you provide a substantial amount of care to your child on a regular basis, and if you wish to have your needs taken into account when decisions are made as to the provision of services.

A blank form can be emailed to you if you wish to complete it electronically. The completed form would need to be handed to the Lead Professional or posted to them.

You may want to ask for help to complete this form from a Social Worker / Family Support Worker, family member, a friend or advocate.

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| Your name: |  |
| Your date of birth: |  |
| Your address: |  |
| Your contact details: |  |
| Name of your child: |  |
| Is anyone helping you to fill in this form? |  |
| What is your first language? Preferred form of communication? |  |
| Do you wish to receive this form translated into another language? |  |
| Do you have any learning needs of your own? |  |

There are several sections to this form, remember you do not have to complete every section you may want to focus on your current circumstances and priorities at this time.

Your Health and Well Being:

*Here are some prompts you might want to consider, remember there may be other things you want to tell us:*

* How you would describe your current health?
* How would you describe your mood?
* How would the people who know you describe your health or mood?
* Are you currently receiving treatment, or should you be receiving treatment for yourself?
* Do you feel your own health is affecting your caring role?
* Have your received practical help in your caring role i.e. moving and handling or guidance in back care?
* Does your caring role interfere with your sleep?
* How do you find time to look after your own health needs?
* What would help you improve your well-being?
* Does your GP know you have caring responsibilities?

Answer Box

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Quality of Life and Social Support:

*Here are some prompts you might want to consider, remember there may be other things you want to tell us:*

* Do you have other caring responsibilities?
* How do you make time to be with the people who are important to you?
* Do you have reliable support networks: formal (paid) e.g. Personal Assistants, counsellor, advocate, or informal (unpaid) i.e. family / friends?
* Would you like to meet other parent carers or people who share similar interests?
* What would help you most in achieving a balance between your own quality of life and your responsibilities as a parent?
* How do you have breaks from your parenting role? i.e. in school times.

Answer Box

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Accessing Information:

*Here are some prompts you might want to consider, remember there may be other things you want to tell us:*

* Do you know where to go for advice and information on carers services?
* Are you aware that there are additional benefits for disabled children and parent-carers? Do you think you are receiving the correct benefits?
* Is there additional information relating to the needs of your child / children that would assist you? E.g. information about a specific condition.
* Do you need any advocacy support or legal advice?
* Do you know how / where to make a complaint about the Local Authority or Family Support Services?

Answer Box

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Access to Leisure, Education, Training or Work:

*Here are some prompts you might want to consider, remember there may be other things you want to tell us:*

* Are you currently working or training and have you the relevant support, for example information about child care?
* Would you wish to access education, training or work in the future?
* Are there any obstacles stopping you from accessing leisure, education, training or work?
* How do you make time for personal and family activities outside the home e.g. days out / visiting family?
* What help might you need to achieve this?
* Do you have access to appropriate transport?

Answer Box

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Back-up plan:

*Here are some prompts you might want to consider, remember there may be other things you want to tell us:*

* What alternative care arrangements have you made in the event of an emergency?
* Do you / your child / your family know who to contact in an emergency?
* What would help you plan alternative care and who would you wish to involve?
* Would your child / children want to be involved in the care planning?
* Is there anything else that needs to be considered?
* Have you thought about making provisions for your child / children in a will?

Answer Box

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Managing Risks:

*Here are some prompts you might want to consider, remember there may be other things you want to tell us:*

* Are there any hazards (including physical risks) when caring for your child / children?
* What would a different carer need to know?
* Have you got a 1 page profile of your child / children or Additional Needs Support Plan that could be shared with others?
* Are there any behavioural challenges / emotional issues?
* What risks have been identified that need further action?

Answer Box

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Outcomes you would like to achieve:

*Here are some prompts you might want to consider, remember there may be other things you want to tell us:*

* What works well for you as a carer / parent? (e.g. special time with your child/ren, having support from family / friends, having someone to talk to, having a good relationship with your child/ren’s school etc).
* What would you like to happen next and how would this make a difference?
* What could help you to achieve this?
* What can you do to progress this?
* When should your desired outcomes be reviewed?
* Do you feel you need an assessment in your own right? i.e. from Mental Health Services, Substance Misuse Service, Adult Services, Adult Learning Disability Services).

Answer Box

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Is there anything you want to say that we haven’t asked you about?

Would you like to share your positive thoughts about parenting your disabled child?

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Thank you for completing the parent-carer needs assessment. Yours views will be taken into consideration.

Confidentiality statement:

The information you have provided in this assessment will be treated with respect and only shared with the people who are involved with your child and family.

Please state below if there are any agencies you do not wish us to share information with:

1.

2.

3.

Safeguarding / Child Protection Concerns - It is important to note that if there are any safeguarding or child protection concerns arising from the assessment process some information might have to be shared with others in order to keep a child safe.

Children’s Social Care: This form will be stored on your child’s electronic file, you can request for it to be kept in the ‘restricted from access’ section which means your child would not be able to have automatic access to it should they request to read their file in the future.

Family Support: A hard copy of this assessment tool will be placed on your family’s electronic file. A copy will also print off and kept in your family’s file paper file.

Please talk to the Lead Professional who is undertaking the assessment about the matters above.

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Complaints:**

The Local Authority has a complaints procedure and information can be provided to you about how to make a complaint, please ask the Lead Professional. The authority also welcomes compliments and general comments which can help to improve our practice.

complaintsandcompliments@calderdale.gov.uk

Tel: 01422 392279

**Useful Contacts / information:**

Calderdale Parent Carers 01422 343090

www.parents-and-carers.org.uk

The Disabled Children’s Family Link Co-ordinator 01422 394087

DCATCH (Disabled Children’s Access to Child Care) 01422 394165

Local Offer for Children with Special Needs and Disabilities – Calderdale Council

http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/localoffer/