

SCENARIOS TO SUPPORT LOCAL DISCUSSIONS

These examples show transient or persistent issues with babies' and toddlers' emotional, behavioural and social wellbeing and development.

They are provided to help local services understand the provision and pathways of care for babies in their local area in order to identify gaps and opportunities. When reading each example, consider would this baby or toddler's problems be identified? How would services understand what is happening for them? How would they receive appropriate support?

I am 7 months old.

My grown-up is very anxious, particularly around food. I'm very interested in food, watching what people eat and reaching out. But my grown-up gets upset when I do that. She says things like I am not ready yet and might choke, or that my hands might be too dirty.

I am two.

I'm just started nursery and I really don't like it. I get very distressed when we start to get ready to go and cry a lot in the car, when we arrive and when my grown-up leaves. I've started to cling onto my grown-up more at home and don't let her leave my sight – even to go to the toilet. If my grown-up goes out I cry and sob and try and get the babysitter to call her, so she does not go out as much anymore. At bedtime I'm refusing to go to sleep unless my grown-up stays with me.

I am 9 weeks old.

I'm very quiet and subdued. My caregivers haven't shown me much interest or responded to my cries so I've stopped making as much noise. I am not spoken to and spend a lot of time in my car seat. I don't seek out eye contact with adults in the way other babies my age do.

I am 4 months old.

I cry a lot and grown-ups find it very hard to soothe me. I struggle to settle for feeds. I do not like being put down. I wake often at night and do not sleep easily during the day. My grown-up is getting very distressed about my crying and is also exhausted because we wake up so much.

I am 14 months old.

I am happy playing with bricks and cars and pushing my fire engine. I don't point at things or make eye contact with grown-ups or other children.

I spend a lot of time with all the grown-ups and other children in my household and wider family who love me very much. I don't go to nursery or playgroups. My health visitor spoke to mum on the phone when I was 10 months old, and we won't see her again until I am two.

I am 18 months old.

When I get frustrated with other children, I can bite and hit. My grown-up used to take me to play groups and to other people's houses to play, but now she is so anxious about my behaviour that we stay at home a lot.

I'm am four.

My grown-up and I have moved around a lot, and other people have lived with us at different times. At pre-school I'm very reserved and don't play much with other children. I have developed a good bond with my key worker and am very anxious to leave her, particularly if different adults come into the setting.

I am very jumpy and startle easily. When something goes wrong, like I spill my drink, I get incredibly upset and am hard to console.

I am nearly three.

I love running around, jumping and climbing. I live in a very small flat and the neighbours told my grown-ups that I am very noisy when they are trying to rest. So my grown-ups try and get me to sit still and watch TV. I love our local park, but we can't afford wellies and warm coats so we only go there on good weather days.

I am four-and-a-half.

I am very chatty and playful and particularly love dinosaurs. I find it hard to sit still. I fidget a lot and don't focus on tasks. I struggle in circle time at pre-school because I can't wait my turn and keep talking, interrupting people, and moving around. My swimming teacher told mummy I couldn't move up to the next group because I won't follow instructions.