**Action for Children Pan-Dorset Parenting Service**

**Guidelines for Referrers**

**Children at Risk of Developing Conduct Disorder**

Questions to ask yourself when considering referral:

* Families with a child aged 2 – 12 years old (developmental age) with developmentally significant symptoms.
* Does the family want a referral?
* What are the risk factors present?

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| **Symptoms**  **Aged 2-4**  Tantrums are significant if (*the more of these are true the higher the risk*):  - they happen daily   * + regularly last more than 5 minutes   + include being aggressive and breaking things during tantrum   + happen out of the blue   + happen with non parental adult   + tend not to resolve unless an adult intervenes   Aggression to people and animals  Developmental delay especially with speech and language  **Aged 5-6**  Tantrums as above  Aggression to people and animals  Lack of remorse in child  Delay in Speech development  Peer rejection  **Aged 7-12 years**  Tantrums as above  Aggression to people and animals  Lack of remorse in child  Little reaction to punishment  Refusal to accept blame  Poor educational performance – particular link with specific reading difficulties  Peer rejection | **Risks**  **Not a single risk factor involved or indicated with CD development, but rather the more risk factors the child is exposed to the greater the odds of poor outcomes.**  Family/ school factors:-  - Parental mental ill health  - parent drug or substance misuse  - Generational unemployment  - Family history of trouble with the police  - Low income  - Rigid punitive parenting/teaching style  - Inconsistent parenting/teaching style  **Aged 5-12 years**  - Poor home school connections  - Peer relations not monitored |