

## Level of Support Definitions

The DCSF have three defined levels of need that are used to record what level of support is offered to a young person on a PA's caseload. The descriptions here are an abridged version of those that appear in the CCIS Requirements 2008 document. Copies of the document can be obtained on request from the Information Team.

| DCSF Description  | How It Appears in IO | Description and Examples  |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| Intensive Support | Intensive Support    | This category would be used for young people who face many complex problems and issues that are currently impacting on their ability to engage in learning and that require specialist support from a number of agencies such as housing, social welfare and health. This would also include young people who were exceptionally gifted. This category of young person needs effective intervention on their behalf from the PA to help them to overcome these barriers and make sure that issues are addressed in a co-ordinated way using a range of specialist services. The PA will most probably be in regular contact to make sure that progress is being made. |
| Supported         | Supported            | This category would apply to young people who would require in depth support and guidance because they are at risk of not engaging effectively in education or training. It could be that a young person in this category has expectations above those which  |

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|                      |                      | are realistic for them or perhaps they do not regularly attend school. It could also include young people with learning difficulties or disabilities and also those who are not likely to achieve as they are expected. All of the young people who would fall into this category would require in depth help and support to ensure that they achieve their full potential. |
| Minimum Intervention | Minimum Intervention | This is used to describe general advice and support given to young people, usually at key periods in their life. This would be where they need support with educational and vocational issues so that they can make informed decisions about their future.  |

The support that an individual young person needs will be based on the assessment of the young persons needs and this will be determined through the professional judgement of the PA.

The DCSF makes note that “Young people should be counted in the category most appropriate to their individual needs and NOT on the availability of resources that meets those needs.”