

READING THE SIGNS

An interactive checklist of indicators for identifying the reasons why young people may disengage



NFER carried out a scoping study (Filmer-Sankey and McCrone, 2012) to explore ways to further improve the system of identification of young people at risk of disengagement from learning but who do not face multiple and complex barriers. The findings from this study suggested that local authorities and schools would welcome the creation of a list of indicators that will help provide guidance to identify those young people who are at risk of becoming NEET. The follow-up study (Southcott et al., 2013) sought to develop a comprehensive list of 'hard' (measurable) and 'soft' (attitudinal and personal) indicators of potential disengagement.

The interactive checklist comprises a spreadsheet that can be used to log various 'risk factors' and potential concerns about individual young people in order to decide on the type of support that needs to be put in place. This tool could be used by relevant staff to provide a central log for sharing and updating information.

We recommend that the first worksheet is kept as an empty template that can be copied across the new worksheet for each additional young person. At time point 2, first copy and paste data from time point 1, then amend as appropriate.

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You can find the interactive checklist here:
www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/INDS02

Important: We recognise that data protection is important so to protect the identity of young person please do the following:

- Collate data in an anonymised format e.g. using student ID numbers. This could then be linked to a separate document containing details of the student and their ID number.
- Password protect the spreadsheet (and document that details student information) and only allow approved staff to access and contribute to it.

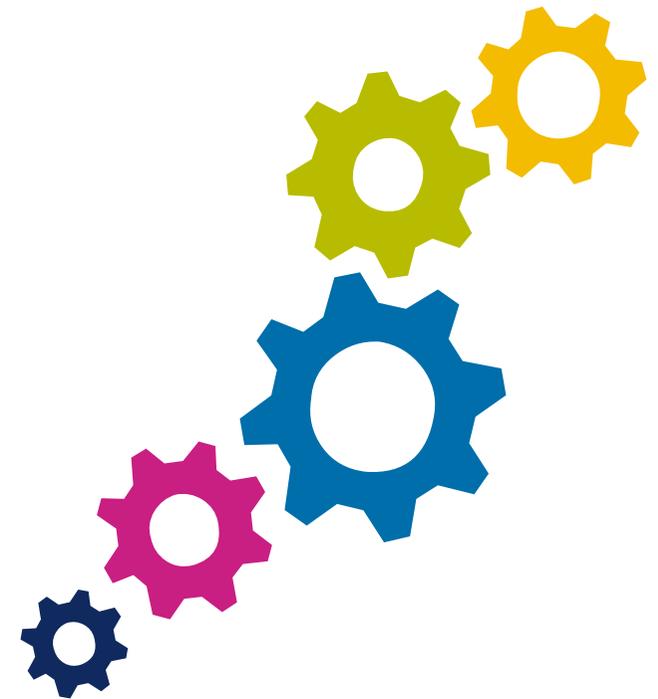


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