

Adaptations to the Form B

MNS has been used with many different service populations (looked after children, children referred to social services, children in contact with education welfare officers, youth justice staff and health visitors, children in residential care) and in a number of countries (including England, Wales, USA (Iowa, New York City, Philadelphia), Norway, Spain, Belgium)). As result the Form B has taken many different versions.

Form Bs generally have four sections – background, needs, outputs (service response) and outcomes. Most MNS exercises include all four sections so that the demographics and needs of the children in the sample can be analysed and compared with the agencies response to these needs and the effect of any interventions. Any exercise that takes a retrospective look at a sample of children in contact with an agency should use all four sections. Where the focus of the audit is solely on need, sections C and D may be omitted.

The tables and notes below set out the core or essential elements of each section and give examples of additional variables that have been included. A Form B including the essential components is also attached.

A. Background

Essential	Optional
Gender	Ethnicity
Age	Date of birth
Identifier	Date of referral
	Date of audit
	Reason for referral
	Referrer
	Child's administrative status (e.g. cared for by the state, on a register)
	Whether or not child has siblings in the sample
	Type of case
	Asylum seeker
	Interpreter required

B. Need

Information related to need should always be recorded using a matrix. This has six rows, five for the dimensions of need (living situation, family and social relationship, social and anti-social behaviour, physical and psychological health, education and employment) and a sixth for other relevant information. The matrix has two columns, one to record the situation on the day of referral or audit, and the other to set out the child's needs. A third column can be added to describe the outcomes that could realistically be achieved for the child.

C. Outputs

Essential	Optional
Did the child or family receive a service from the agency being audited? What type of service(s) did they receive?	What was the administrative response of the agency? Was there a full assessment? Was the child registered? Did the child remain at home? Was the child referred to another agency? Did the child receive a service from another agency? Was the case allocated? Have there been subsequent referrals?

D. Outcomes

Essential	Optional
Did the service address the needs identified in section B?	At the point of referral was there: significant impairment to health or development; impairment to health or development but not significant; or no impairment to health or development?
How did the intervention effect the child's development?	At the point of referral was there: predicted significant impairment; predicted impairment but not significant; or no predicted impairment? After the provision of services was there: significant impairment to health or development; impairment to health or development but not significant; or no impairment to health or development? After the provision of service was there: predicted significant impairment; predicted impairment but not significant; or no predicted impairment?