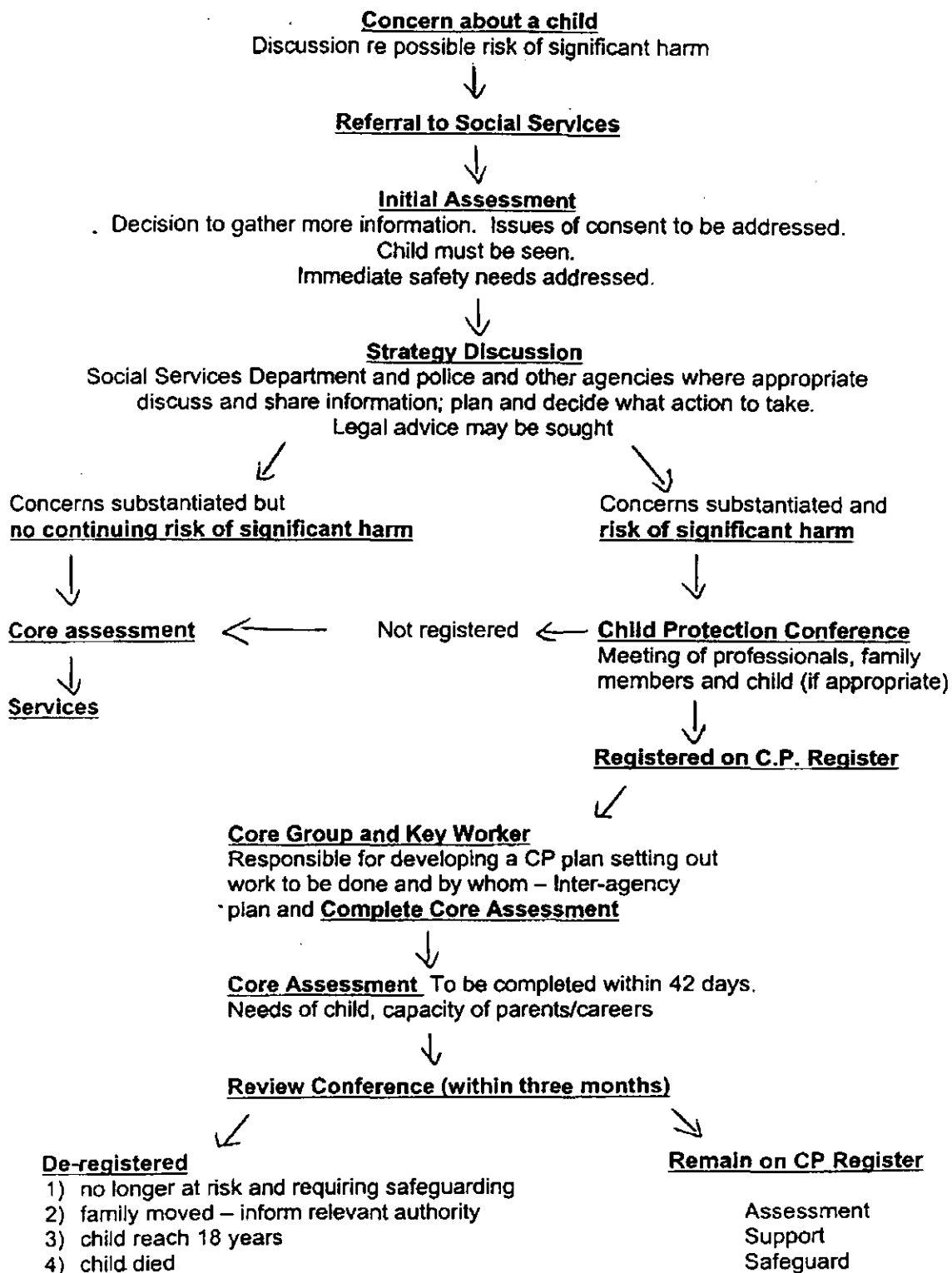
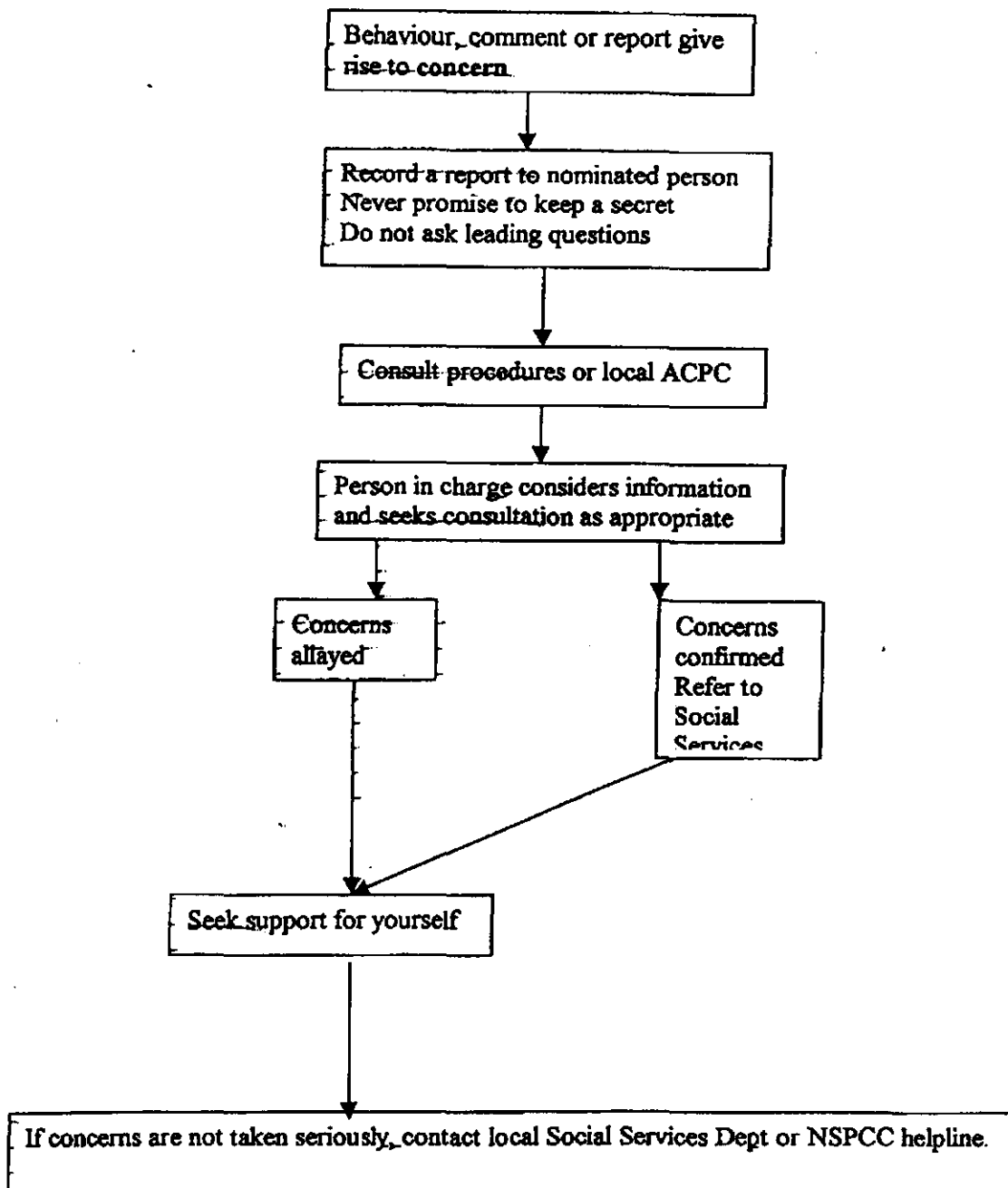


## THE CHILD PROTECTION PROCESS



## Responding to suspected child abuse



## **TEACHERS' RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE CHILDREN ACT 1989**

Teachers have a responsibility to do all they can to protect the children in their care from harm.

Section 3(5) of the Act

This section states that:

Schools have a duty to assist local authority social services departments in enquiries into allegations of abuse to help when they are acting on behalf of children in need.

“ A person who does not have parental responsibility for a particular child, but has care of the child may.... do what is reasonable in all the circumstances of the case for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare”.

### **Working Together under the Children Act 1989**

Gives guidance on the role of the education service in protecting children from abuse:

- To assist the local authority in its enquiries regarding child abuse.
- The education service is not an investigative or intervention agency.
- The most important role for schools is in the recognition and referral stages.
- The school must have clear procedures for referring and liaising on cases of suspected abuse. All staff must be familiar with these.
- Schools have a pastoral responsibility for protecting children from harm.