

Table 2**NICE (NG51) risk stratification tool for children aged 5-11 years with suspected sepsis¹**

Category	Age	High risk criteria	Moderate to high risk criteria	Low risk criteria
Behaviour	Any	Objective evidence of altered behaviour or mental state Appears ill to a healthcare professional Does not wake or if roused does not stay awake	Not behaving normally Decreased activity Parent or carer concern that the child is behaving differently from usual	Behaving normally
Respiratory	Any	Oxygen saturation of less than 90% in air or increased oxygen requirement over baseline	Oxygen saturation of less than 92% in air or increased oxygen requirement over baseline	No high risk or moderate to high risk criteria met
	Aged 5 years	Raised respiratory rate: 29 breaths per minute or more	Raised respiratory rate: 24–28 breaths per minute	
	Aged 6–7 years	Raised respiratory rate: 27 breaths per minute or more	Raised respiratory rate: 24–26 breaths per minute	
	Aged 8–11 years	Raised respiratory rate: 25 breaths per minute or more	Raised respiratory rate: 22–24 breaths per minute	
Circulation and hydration	Any	Heart rate less than 60 beats per minute	Capillary refill time of 3 seconds or more Reduced urine output For catheterised patients, passed less than 1 ml/kg of urine per hour	No high risk or moderate to high risk criteria met
	Aged 5 years	Raised heart rate: 130 beats per minute or more	Raised heart rate: 120–129 beats per minute	
	Aged 6–7 years	Raised heart rate: 120 beats per minute or more	Raised heart rate: 110–119 beats per minute	
	Aged 8–11 years	Raised heart rate: 115 beats per minute or more	Raised heart rate: 105–114 beats per minute	
Temperature	Any		Tympanic temperature less than 36°C	
Skin	Any	Mottled or ashen appearance Cyanosis of skin, lips or tongue Non-blanching rash of skin		
Other	Any		Leg pain Cold hands or feet	No high or moderate to high risk criteria met