

**ECHO Personal Safety Risk Assessment**

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| **Family name** |  | **Mosaic number:** |  | **Completed by** |  |
| **Address** |  | **Date** |  |
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| **Potential Risk** | **Details of actual risk** | **Mitigating factors** | **Control measures** |
| Environmental health issues in regards to property e.g. cleanliness, obstructions etc.  | The property is clean however a little cluttered and there is limited room to move around the property.  | N/A  | Always be aware of potential hazards on each visit and update the risk assessment accordingly. Take care when moving around the property.  |
| Health and safety issues in regards to property e.g. uneven steps, corridors, country lanes, lifts, poor lighting, remote location etc | House is in a well-lit urban area with adequate road side parking. Leading to the property are several steps.  | Take care when accessing and leaving the property.  | Always be aware of potential hazards on each visit and update the risk assessment accordingly.Buddy system to be followed at all times. |
| Property not secure e.g. frequently doors are left open, unlocked or entrances not safe, strangers in property | Social worker has reported at the property doors are left open, unlocked or entrances not safe, strangers in property. | Worker to asses on each visit if safe. | FSW worker to seek advice about the issue if they are concerned about their own safety. Worker not to enter the property until it has been secured and unknown individuals have left the address.Worker to use buddy system at all times.Worker to contact manager or police if they are concerned about the safety of children or young people at the address. |
| Contagious illness | Cross contamination can occur between worker and the family causing illness to either worker or family member. | N/A  | FSW worker to inform the family if they are unwell and need to rearrange the visit. FSW worker to not visit the family if they have a contagious illness. FSW worker not to attend visit in the event that family member is unwell and illness is suspected as contagious.Buddy system to be followed at all times. |
| Child/parent has mental health issues  | …….. has mental health issues and has reported to suffer with depression and anxiety. ……… has recently self -harmed by cutting his wrists.  |  | FSW worker to seek advice about the issue if they are concerned about mental health. Inform manager and social worker if occurs and update risk assessment.Worker to support parent/child in accessing mental health support.If there are immediate concerns, worker to call 999.Worker to discuss with mother removing sharps and medication out of children’s reach.Worker to use buddy system at all times. |
| Child/parent are known to use illicit / non-prescribed drugs or medication | Parent has reported that young person smokes Cannabis. ……. has also admitted to this.  | FSW to discuss with Social Worker if suspicions arise around illicit drug use and discuss making a referral to addaction if appropriate. | FSW worker to seek advice about the issue if they are concerned about suspected illicit drug use.FSW worker to make excuses if parent/child is under the influence of substances and leave the property. If this occurs then worker to inform Social Worker and Manager and update the risk assessment. Worker to make use of the Buddy System at all times. |
| Child/parent has issues relating to alcohol misuse | Parents have reported that ….. drinks alcohol. The young person has also admitted to this.  | FSW Worker to discuss with Social Worker if suspecting alcohol misuse and discuss making a referral to Addaction if appropriate. | FSW Worker to seek advice about the issue if they are concerned about suspected alcohol use. FSW worker to make excuses and leave the property if parent/child is under the influence of alcohol. FSW worker to inform the Social Worker and Manager and update the risk assessment. Worker to make use of the Buddy system at all times. FSW to call police if there are immediate safeguarding concerns. |
| Child/parent has previously displayed violent/aggressive behaviour | …… has been noted to be aggressive in the past and have violent outbursts. There are several police incidents recorded regarding ……’s violent behaviour.  | This behaviour has not been directed towards professionals. | Worker to monitor mood and use de-escalation techniques if appropriate.Worker to leave the home if they feel threatened and call 999 for assistance if necessary. Inform Manager and Social Worker of any violent or aggressive behaviour. Re-evaluate the risk assessment if the risk is heightened. Worker to use Buddy system at all times. |
| Domestic abuse issues within the family | Mother was a previous victim of abuse from the children's father and he still visits the house to collect the children for contacts. | FSW worker to discuss with Social Worker if suspicion of domestic abuse arises. | Worker to leave the home if they feel threatened and call 999 for assistance if necessary. Inform Manager and Social Worker of any violent or aggressive behaviour. Re-evaluate the risk assessment if the risk is heightened. Worker to use Buddy system at all times. |
| Child/parent has previous convictions | …… states he had been charged with …  |  | Worker to monitor mood and use de-escalation techniques if appropriate.Worker to leave the home if they feel threatened and call 999 for assistance if necessary. Inform Manager and Social Worker of any violent or aggressive behaviour. Re-evaluate the risk assessment if the risk is heightened. Worker to use Buddy system at all times.Female worker never to be left alone with ……... Work to be completed in a public place or in family home with parents in the home. Female worker not to transport …….. in car alone.  |
| Child/parent has criminal associates that frequent the property e.g. drug misusers/ dealers | N/A  | FSW worker to discuss with Social Worker and Manager if this becomes an issue. | Worker to leave the home if they feel threatened and call 999 for assistance if necessary. Inform Manager and Social Worker. Re-evaluate the risk assessment if the risk is heightened. Worker to use Buddy system at all times. |
| Child/parent is in poor physical health/prescribed medication |  | N/A  | FSW worker to seek advice about the issue if they are concerned about health. Inform manager and social worker if occurs and update risk assessment. Worker to use Buddy system at all times. |
| Child/parent has attempted suicide/self-harm | …….. has exhibited self-harming behaviours like ………. ……… has taken an overdose recently and was taken to hospital to be monitored.  | FSW worker to discuss with manager and social worker if any suspicions arise around self-harm and suicide attempts.  | Inform Social Worker and Manager if there are any changes. Risk Assessment to also be updated.Worker to use Buddy system at all times.Work to be completed with ………. about ensuring all sharps and medication are appropriately locked away. FSW worker to seek guidance from CAMH’s worker before starting any direct work.Worker to call 999 if there are immediate safeguarding concerns. |
| Child/parent has dietary requirements and/or allergies (specify presentation) | None known.  | N/A  | Inform Social Worker and Manager if there are any changes. Risk Assessment to also be updated. |
| Family members have been previous victims of domestic abuse and have relocated | ……….(mother) has relocated from south wales to Hereford due to a physically abusive previous relationship with the young person’s father. | X is no longer in contact with the father. | All reports of abuse through the children to ……. and concerns of emotional abuse to be reported to the social worker. Worker to leave the home if they feel threatened and call 999 for assistance if necessary. Inform Manager and Social Worker of any violent or aggressive behaviour. Re-evaluate the risk assessment if the risk is heightened. Worker to use Buddy system at all times. |
| Unsafe parking outside the house e.g. not easy to exit from, in a poorly lit area, in very rural locations etc.  | There is limited car parking outside the property due to the house being situated on a main road and lack of space on the driveway. House is a little difficult to exit from the driveway onto the main busy road. Area is poorly lit in a remote location.  | Property is situated in a well-lit urban area and has adequate roadside parking. | Be vigilant when walking to and from car. Do not contact buddy at the end of session until ‘safe and away’.Take care when parking vehicles outside the property; workers to car share where possible to enable parking on the safe driveway.  |
| Poor or limited network coverage in the home | Limited network coverage and mobile phone signal due to the remote location of the property.  | N/A Adequate mobile phone coverage within the property | Worker to leave the home if they feel threatened. Worker to check if they have signal on personal mobile phone.Worker to use Buddy system at all times.If this becomes an issue, visits to be undertaken outside of the family home where better mobile network coverage is available.  |
| Neighbourhood/area e.g. rural, high risk/ high crime | Property is on a quiet residential street.  |  | Worker to be aware of their surroundings and to always use the buddy system.  |
| Weather conditions e.g. rural roads, flooding etc | Possibility of hazards due to severe weather conditions such as snowing/flooding etc.  | Before visits worker to regularly check weather updates. | Workers/parents/children not to travel in dangerous weather conditions contact the family and rearrange the visit and inform manager. |
| Timing of home visit e.g. weekend visits, out of hours etc.  | Visits have not been scheduled to take place out of hours.  | Always use the buddy system | Complete Buddy Request and follow the Lone working procedure correctly before and after each visit. |
| Animals at property (refer to additional notes) | 1 x Dog at the property.  | Social worker has informed that the dog is friendly. | If the FSW is worried about the dog, worker to ask for the dog to be put outside or in a different room. |
| Inappropriate behaviour/comments towards FSW worker | Parent shared that young person thought the FSW was ‘fit’ and preferred to work with females. The young person is currently on bail for being charged with sexual assault of a female.  | FSW worker to discuss with manager and SW if behaviour/comments become an issue.  | Female worker never to be left alone with the young person. Work to be completed in a public place or in family home with parents in the home. Female worker not to transport the young person in car alone. Male worker to accompany female worker on visits. Worker to record any inappropriate comments or behaviours.  |
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| Passed to manager | Yes / No | Manager’s name: |  | Date: |  |
| To be reviewed: |  | RA Reviewed by:  |  | Date: |  |

**Considerations for pet assessment:**

* Type and breed of animal
* Vaccinations
* Clean feeding and sleeping areas
* Exercise routine where applicable
* Temperament towards i) adults in the household; ii) children; iii) strangers
* Has the pet ever bitten anyone?
* Adults ability to manage pet’s behaviour

**Possible control measures:**

* Check with police / other agencies if there is knowledge of any issues before visiting.
* Trust your instincts and don’t enter the house if unsure – if need be, make your excuses on the doorstep and explain that you wanted to let them know in person / that you need to rearrange the visit at short notice, and advise them that you will be in touch soon.
* Close the door behind you on the way in so you know how the handles/locks work.
* Park your car so that you can drive away quickly and easily from the property.
* Undertaking ‘breaking free’ training.
* Undertake all first visits with another professional.
* Have a code word that you can use with staff back at the office in case of emergency.
* Keep your ‘phone switched on and nearby.
* ‘Phone before visiting to ask if it will just be them at the house.
* Complete an informal assessment of the home environment on the first visit and note any risks.
* Ask about pets resident at the property and take the appropriate actions e.g. meeting at another venue if a dog is at the house and you have a dog allergy; ask for dogs to be kept away securely during visit.
* Check the weather forecast before setting out and cancel the visit if inclement weather is due.
* Ensure that your vehicle has appropriate kit e.g. first aid kit, hi-vis jacket, torch, foil blankets etc.
* Do not enter the home if it is evident that the parent is under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
* Check if any of these risks are known about before visiting. If so, arrange to meet in a neutral venue or ensure that the family are undertaking the appropriate treatment for the condition e.g. head lice.
* Check with police and other agencies before visiting to see if domestic violence has been recorded. If so, do not meet both parents together or only arrange the home visits alongside another professional.
* Ensure that your ‘buddy’ has details of the time and address of the visit (put this on Outlook) and that you contact them when you arrive and when you leave.
* Know who your buddy is when out of hours.
* Know the out of hours emergency number.