

Sibling assessment: key elements

(for social workers)

Think about how you will structure your assessment: what information and observations you might contribute directly and what contributions you can seek from others. The assessment report will include information that has already been obtained. The headings below are intended to provide a guide to key elements that you might helpfully and commonly include and some of which you will already have access to.

Details of each child in the sibling group

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Details of social worker

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Work undertaken to complete the report, including dates of interviews and observations, key reports read and supporting evidence obtained from other people

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Key background information and impact on children's sibling relationship

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The views of parents and significant relatives about each child and their sibling relationship

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Key observations of the children and their sibling relationship

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Findings from SDQ, if completed, and any possible future implications

Overview of each child and their individual needs – describe and consider each child’s needs (identity, developmental, emotional, behavioural, social, health, and education) and highlight any differences in behaviour/presentation observed in different settings or by different people. Consider the implications of these needs for those caring for the child in the future

Overview of sibling relationships – describe how the children get on together now, any roles they have within the group, the strengths and vulnerabilities of the relationships and how all of this impacts of each child.

Support or interventions provided re: the sibling relationship

Analysis and recommendations re: placement

Consideration of and recommendations for contact

Recommendations for future support

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Signature and date report completed

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