

How to Guide

Danger/Worry Statements

Safety/Wellbeing/Success Goals

Scaling Questions



What is a Danger/Worry Statement?

They give the reasons we are working with the family in **clear straightforward language**. That makes sense to everyone and are understandable, even if people don't agree.

They include what we are worried could happen if nothing changes, and the impact of this on the child/ young person.

Writing a Danger/Worry Statement

There should be one Danger/Worry Statement for each issue. But no more than three or four in total.

1. Start with **who is worried**
2. Then say **what we are worried about** – describe what **has** happened in the past that has caused us to be worried, be specific and factual; give examples. Don't use professional language like 'domestic violence' or 'neglect' – say what the behaviour is.
3. Then describe the potential future **impact** on the child/ young person What we are worried might happen if things don't get better or worse, both in the short and long term if nothing changes.

What is a Safety/Wellbeing/Success Goal?

For each Danger /Worry Statement there should be a correlating Goal.

Goals say **what everyone needs to see to feel confident that things for the child/ young person are much better**. This could be in relation to being safer so we can step down or no longer be involved. For some of our children it maybe that we will be less worried about a particular issue, but we will still be involved.

The Goal shows everyone what we are working together to achieve.

Writing a Safety/Wellbeing/Success Goal

The Goal says **what** we need to see in the future to be satisfied things for the child are better.

Say what everyone will see that tells them that things are good enough. **What will be happening, how will we know the child/ young person will be safe in the future?**

Be specific, and try to focus on good things that **will** be happening rather than the bad things that will have stopped, e.g. say that 'mum and dad will have ways to resolve problems in a calm way' rather than 'mum and dad will not argue'.

You should say how long you will need to see the plan working for or how long you need to see the changes be maintained for to be satisfied that this will continue in the longer term.

Danger/Worry Statement:

Who is worried

About what

Impact on the child

Safety/Wellbeing/Success Goal:

What we will need to see to know things are better

How long for?

Scaling Questions

Scaling questions is a mechanism by which we can evidence how things are progressing for a child, by using the question consistently we can show distanced travelled. The scaling question matches and compliments the danger/worry statement and the goals, therefore these are used as a trio.

What is really important is that the 0 and 10 are clearly defined and reflect the danger/worry statement and the goal. When asking the scaling question, you need to collect both the number provided **and** the rationale. The evidence is in the rationale so this **must** be recorded.

Danger/worry statements and goals largely do not change in between reviews but there are a few exceptions such as, if new harm comes about, the way they are written is unhelpful and not understandable to the family therefore not useful, or if things for the child change such as step-up or step-down transitions.

Scaling questions often start, On a scale of 0-10, where 10 is.....and 0 is.....
Where do you rate things as they stand today?

0-----**10**
Danger/Worry Statement **Safety/Wellbeing/Success Goal**

Lots of examples are available in the [Signs of Safety Workbook and on the Knowledge Bank](#). [Contact Kate Blackburn for more information](#).