

5 Foster carers – Identifying difficult patterns of behaviour and aggression

Below is a form that can be used to record difficult behaviours, identify conflicts or lack of co-operation between siblings.

Names of children	

Sibling conflict topic	Definition	Between whom? Instigator, if clear Frequency: daily/weekly/occasionally
Physical	Physical aggression between them (e.g. hitting, scratching, biting, throwing things)	
Verbal	Screaming, yelling and threatening comments exchanged between them	
Teasing	Teasing comments and insults	
Telling tales	How one sibling is always "telling on" the other to their parents/carers, etc	
Control	How one sibling is always telling the other what to do or how to do something One child's inappropriate behaviour (e.g. lying, talking back to carers, etc)	
Sharing common objects	Difficulty sharing objects common to both siblings such as a computer or the television, or that one child is always monopolising family items	
Personal objects	Difficulty sharing personal possessions such as comics or bikes, or that one child will take the other's personal possession without asking them	
Friends	Difficulty sharing friends, acting differently around friends, or teasing the other in front of friends	

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Rejection	One child not wanting to play with another or rejecting the other child	
Privacy	Wanting to be left alone or having little personal space because of the sibling	
Competition	Do any of the children always need to be "top dog" in games, sports, etc?	
Rivalry – birth family	Do any of the children feel they are being treated better or worse by their parents?	

Any other difficult behaviour that concerns you? Please specify.

Thank you very much for your time and help.