Parenting Assessment informed by SOS

PARENTING ASSESSMENT

REASON FOR ASSESSMENT

Include existing Danger Statements with numbers and titles, for example
1. **Drink and drug use**…

2. **Domestic Abuse**… etc

HOW THIS ASSESSMENT WILL BE COMPLETED

Areas to consider
- Cultural Genogram – who are the important people to the child and family?
- Discussions with parents / children / people who know the parent/child relationship best (e.g. wider family, professionals)
- Observations of parent / child interaction
- Reflective discussions e.g. 'kids need' cards, parenting patchwork, specific resources and worksheets, e.g. 'Keeping your cool'.

THE PEOPLE CONTRIBUTING TO THIS ASSESSMENT ARE:

Include parent(s), children, professionals and those present in the wider family network

Chronology

Ensure this is up to date; that it includes significant events (both worrying and positive events); it includes the context around the events; and the impact on the child

Child and Young Person

Child/YP needs and experiences

Refer the reader to any previous assessments or documents for court such as the SWET for information about the child / young person.

Include any relevant, additional information about the child / young person that hasn't been covered in other assessments or court documents.

Include any Harm Statements in this section, for example, where the child has made a disclosure about abuse. Include the detail of what the child has said and how this has affected them.

Where a child / young person has been looked after and we are considering returning them home, or where we have had worries about them that has led to a Parenting Assessment, what was the child / young person's day to day life like before and how was

this harming them? What is different about their day to day life now or what will be different about their day to day life if they return home, and how do we know this?

The child/young persons views, wishes and aspirations.

Adult/Carer Adult 1

The Danger Statements bring focus to the assessment. This is where you explore the issues in the Danger Statement and the impact on parenting in more detail. Include the number and title of each Danger Statement, for example:

    1. Domestic Abuse.

You do not need to repeat the Danger Statement here.

When exploring, reflecting and analysing how the issues in each Danger Statement impact on parenting, it *may* be helpful to consider the following (this is not exhaustive, and you may wish to explore different or additional questions):

What has happened to this parent in the past that is impacting on their ability to care for their children currently?

What are some examples of the current worrying parent behaviour and how is this affecting the care of the children / the parent's relationship with the children? Think about what this means for each child uniquely, taking into account what they have seen, heard, experienced or are otherwise aware of; their age; and their understanding.

What are some examples of the strengths / safety behaviours that means the worrying adult behaviour is less likely to affect the care of the children, and how do we know this?

What has changed for the parents, for example, since their child became looked after, that tells us that they could now care for their child and keep them safe?

Where is there evidence that the parents can and do care for the children in relation to the issues raised? What do they do to care for their children? How often is this happening? What difference is this making to the child?

Thicken the story by exploring this from different people's perspectives, for example, the parent, child, wider family, professionals.

Views of Parent/carer

Include the parent / carers views on this assessment and whether they agree or disagree

FAMILY OUTCOMES
Please select 'What we want to Achieve.'
Please complete the relevant sections applicable to the child/Young Person and their family

Family and Environmental Factors
Areas to consider (this is not exhaustive, and you may wish to explore different or additional questions)

Who are the most important people to the child and parents and how do they help? What difference does this make to the care of the children?

What is the network's perspective on the parents care of the children? What is the network's relationship with the children and how do we know?

Anything else going on in the wider community that is making it harder for parents to care for their children or that is helping them, for example, difficulties with neighbours, high crime area, good local resources

Complicating Factors
What other things are going on in the parent's life that is making life harder or making caring for their children more difficult? This could include poverty, stress, difficult relationships, bereavement, cultural differences etc.

Analysis - what we think this means?

What are we Worried About?

Harm
Briefly summarise the past harmful parent behaviour and current harmful parent behaviour and what this means for the children. Keep this concise so you aren't repeating yourself.

Complicating factors
Summarise and briefly analyse the impact of those complicating factors that are affecting the parent's ability to care for their children. Keep this concise so you aren't repeating yourself.

What is Working Well?

Strengths / Safety
Include strengths in parenting and the relationship and role of the wider network in helping to care for the child and keep them safe.

Safety / Success Goals
Goals need to say how we will know that things have improved for the child, in relation to each Danger Statement (for example, what life will look like for the child when the worries in the danger statement are being managed)

Provide a brief analysis of parent's ability to meet each Safety Goal

Scaling of each Safety Goal / Danger Statement
Social worker, parent and child (if they are able to) should scale, give reasons for the number they have given and say what they each think needs to happen to start to move up the scale.

Recommendations and what needs to happen?

Summary and Recommendation

What needs to happen next