

# Durham's Signs of Safety Vision

Signs of safety will provide a consistent practice model to help us to support children and young people to remain within their families and networks where they have the potential to care for them safely, and when this is not possible, to provide a secure and stable home and help them achieve their full potential.

[Also see animation of the Signs of Safety Vision](#)

Keep the child/young person at the centre – by making sure that children and young people understand why we are involved, talking to them about their worries, wishes and the things going well in their lives and involving children and young people in our plans.



Be risk sensible - ask as many questions about what is working well as well as we would about worries and always bring this back to the impact on the child/young person.

Build good relationships with children, young people, families and colleagues – by listening, recognising their strengths and honouring their efforts.



To help us achieve this we will all strive to:



Be brave – give new ways of working a go, be creative and be upfront with families that we are still learning.

Involve the network – help families to find and strengthen their network and involve them in creating plans.



Learn and share experiences together – practice SofS in Group Supervision, share what we have learnt and learn from what works well.

Use a questioning approach – by being curious, checking out what we think we 'know' from lots of different perspectives, seeing children, young people and families as the experts in their own lives.



Use clear and compassionate language – speak and write about children, young people and families the way that we would want someone to speak and write about a child/young person that we have a connection to.