

Signs of Safety:

Turning questions into conversations: EARS Process

	WORRIES	STRENGTHS	GOALS
Elicit First question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What has happened, what have you seen, that makes you worried about this child/young person and family now? How has this worry had an impact on the child/ young person? <p>Complicating factors Question: Are there things happening in this family's life that make it harder to deal with what you are worried about?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What's working well in this family? What are the best parts of mum/dad's parenting? What would the child say are the best times they have with their mum/dad/carer? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you think needs to happen? What do you need to see to be satisfied the child is safe enough for you to be less worried? What did the child/young person say they needed to happen to feel safer or that things were better?
Amplify Behavioural detail: what would you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When was the first time that you were aware of that this worry was happening? What is the worst thing that has happened to the child/young person because of this worry? When and what is the last time that you are aware of that this worry happened? How often and how bad have these worries been? How long has it been going on? What is the worst thing that you think could happen to the child/young person because of this worry? <p>Communication: What language can we use to help the parent and child understand the worry?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has there been times when this worry has been dealt with or was even a little better? How did that happen? How is the support already in place making things better for the child? <p>Support network question: Who are the people that are closest to the child/young person? And what do they do to keep the child/young person safe or help them to grow up well?</p> <p>Exception questions: e.g. When has the mum/dad managed their mental health to be able to focus on the child's needs? How? How else?</p>	<p>Describe the details of the behaviour you would want to see that would tell you that this child is safe/things were better?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What support do you want from another service? What can that service do that the support already in place cannot? What outcomes do you want to be achieved by this work? What is the parents/carers willingness/capacity to do this? What do we need to do to create a relationship where we can talk about difficult issues?
Reflect Meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the worries do you think is most important to deal with first? Which of the worries would worry the parents/child most? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the strengths are most useful in terms of getting this problem dealt with? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you feel clearer about your worries after this conversation?
Start over	Are there any other worries that we have missed?	Are there any other good things happening in this family that we have missed?	Are there any other important things that we have missed in this conversation?