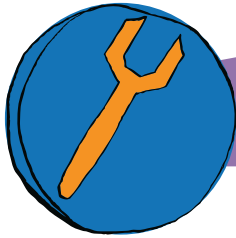


KEEP ME IN THE LOOP



TOOL 5D: RESPONDING TO KIDS' REQUESTS

LINKED TO:

- Sections 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.11, 5.1, 5.2 & 6.9



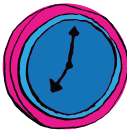
WHY?

- Because kids need to know that you are taking their needs and wishes seriously



WHO WITH?

- Kids of all ages



TIME?

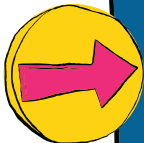
- 10 minutes



YOU'LL NEED?

- Copy of the template

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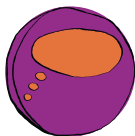
WHAT TO DO:

- This is a basic form that can be filled out either with the child during a session or afterwards. Start with the first two columns “What you heard” and “what you did in response”.
- What is key is that children see that you have heard and actioned their concerns. Giving them a copy of the completed form or showing them as part of the next session is suggested.
- After an agreed period of time, the form should be reviewed with the “what changed” and “how the kids think things have changed” columns completed with the child. Children can either choose to suggest further action or to review the form again at a later date. When they feel happy with how things have gone they can sign off by marking the final column.



SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

- Rather than using this proforma, workers might ask kids to draw or even act out the before and after – as long as the worker records it for review at another meeting.
- Tool # “Here and there” can also be used for this activity.



TO THINK ABOUT:

- Children’s wishes should be integrated into the family’s case planning process. Spend some time thinking about how this might be most appropriately done.



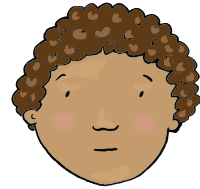
HAZARD ZONES:

- Children tell us that they feel betrayed when adults make promises that they don’t keep. Be clear with kids about how you are going to respond to the wishes that they have identified. If you can’t fulfill them completely: tell them. If you have taken them on-board but in a different way to that which the child proposes: explain it to them. Otherwise kids will often believe that you didn’t listen or care.

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RESPONDING TO KIDS' REQUESTS



NAME OF CHILD/REN:

.....
.....

KEY WORKER'S NAME:

.....
.....

WHAT THE CHILD/REN SAID THEY'D LIKE / NEEDED:

.....
.....

What you heard	What you did in response	What changed	How the kids think things have changed	Would they like further action? Y/N	Child's signature / symbol