

Who ELSE MATTERS?



TOOL 6F SHARING MY STORY

LINKED TO:

- Sections 1.6, 5.1, 5.7, 6.8 & 6.9



WHY?

- To reach an agreement with children about what they are happy for workers to share with their parents, other family members and workers



WHO WITH?

- Children 5+



TIME?

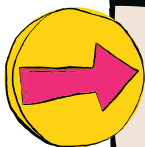
- 5mins to 20mins



YOU'LL NEED?

- A copy of the template

Who ELSE MATTERS?



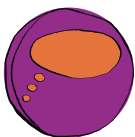
WHAT TO DO:

- When children raise issues that you think might need to be shared with others, remind them of your agreement in regards to confidentiality: that you'll keep things to yourself unless you are worried about the child and / or when they give you permission to share this information. Explain that this form will help them decide what things are OK to share and what's not.
- Prior to completing the form with the child, services should already have considered and filled out the "If you tell us that you or your family aren't safe" section and have it ready to explain to the child.
- After doing so, complete the top part of the form with the child, highlighting any particular concerns or broad issues that they are happy for you to share with them. Sometimes it might be helpful to probe or offer suggestions of things that they might be happy to share (ie when you do something that others might be proud of; when you're not feeling safe; when you need something to happen; when you'd like something explained). A similar question might be asked in relation to things they don't want shared (ie when they're worried about how people might react). In regards to the latter, it is OK for workers to gently challenge the things that they don't want shared or to ask them if it would be OK to give them some ideas about how information might be shared so that their worries are less likely to eventuate (ie you're worried that your Mum might be embarrassed: how about we write her a letter that she can read by herself and then talk about it a bit later?).



SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

- Write things that children most often talk about on small cards. Set up a continuum for the children (by using sticky labels / cards that say "strongly agree" or "strongly disagree") and ask them to answer the question "I'm happy for you to talk to ... about" by placing the cards with the discussion topics on the continuum in relation to their willingness for information to share. Ask them questions about why they've placed the cards at a particular point and probe as to whether there might be particular ways of sharing that they would consider OK.



TO THINK ABOUT:




- It is important that children and parents are clear about your service's policies around information sharing. Obviously if your service is of the view that parents are able to access all information about their children then you would not do this exercise with kids in regards to what you will share with parents. Instead, you would need to clearly explain to the child why your policy is in place and what you would do with certain information.



HAZARD ZONES:

- Children may use this activity to disclose particular information. Be prepared for this and give them enough information through the process so that they are well aware of how you might share what they've told you.

Sharing my story

 <p>Who needs to know?</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
 <p>When is it OK to tell them?</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
 <p>What I don't want them to know</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>My signature</p>	



We'll talk about this again on: ___/___/___ and we'll see if it's still what I want.
If you tell us that your or your family aren't safe or that you've been hurt then we might need to do something about it.

In our service we will

Step 1:	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
Step 2:	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
Step 3:	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

My worker has explained this to me	
------------------------------------	---