National
Workforce
Centre for Child
Mental Health

The CHILD domains as a tool for engagement

The information below sets out questions or areas to be curious about for each of the CHILD domains. You can use this as a flexible tool at any stage of the assessment. It will help you to feel reassured that you haven't missed any important areas that impact on the child's social and emotional wellbeing. There is space for your notes on the next page.



About the child

GP remains curious with the child and parent about:

- the child's interests and activities
- the child's strengths
- the child's difficulties
- the child's temperament.



Home circumstances and context

Questions to help the GP to remain curious with the child and parent:

- Does the child have any siblings?
- What are their names?
- What are the child's favourite activities at home?

GP remains curious with the parent about any other stresses at home, such as:

- parental mental health
- parental substance use (alcohol, drugs, prescription medication and its side effects)
- conflict or violence
- other issues (e.g. physical health, housing, finances, legal issues, gambling, etc.).



Interactions between the child and parent

Questions to help the GP to remain curious with the child and parent:

- What activities do the child and parent enjoy together?
- What are the main challenges in the parent-child relationship?

GP remains curious with the parent about:

- the parent's emotions at the current time
- the family's routines
- how they set and uphold boundaries
- how they show affection and encouragement
- how they engage in child-led play
- how they deal with difficult behaviours.



Links in the community

GP remains curious with the child and parent about:

- the child's friends and family network
- the child's enjoyment and engagement at school
- the child's involvement in any community groups or activities.

GP remains curious with the parent about:

- what support networks they have in place for the family.



Development

GP remains curious with the child and parent about:

- the child's physical development
- any difficulties the child is experiencing with cognition or learning
- the child's social and emotional development
- any behavioural concerns.

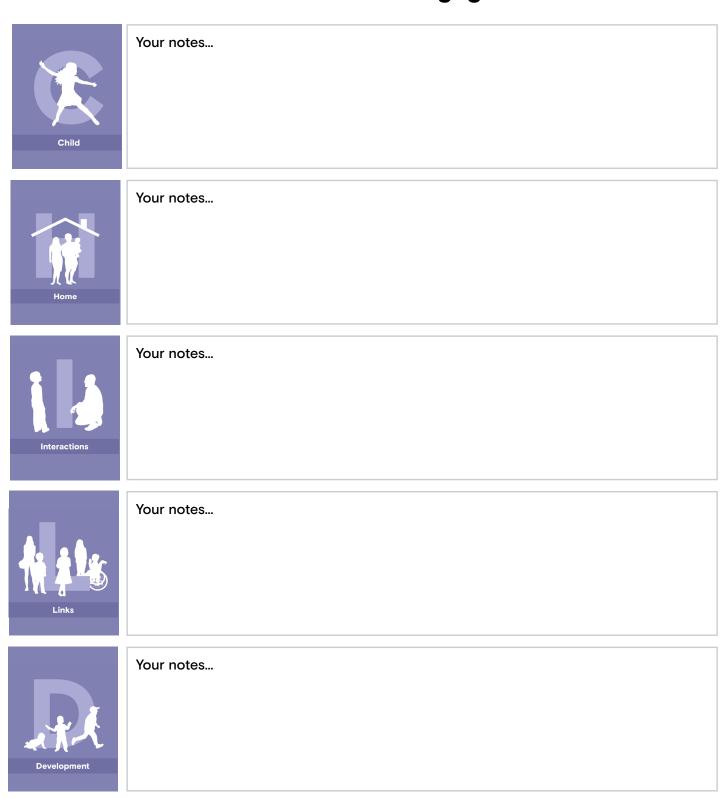
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