

Professional Curiosity



7 minute slides to enhance safeguarding practice and promote professional discussion



Professional curiosity.....

is the capacity and communication skill to explore and understand what is happening within a family rather than making assumptions or accepting things at face value.

Questions to consider/discuss;

- Are you professionally curious?
- How do you demonstrate professional curiosity in your practice?

What does professional curiosity look like in practice?

- Engaging children and families
- Professional Courage
- Being transparent
- Non judgemental
- Non critical
- Listening to siblings and other adults
- Creating a safe space / trusting relationship
- Challenging own theories/assumptions about
- Respectful uncertainty to spot disguised compliance
- Professional Challenge
- Being open to the unexpected
- It needs effective multi agency working
- It's capturing the voice of the child
- Playing devil's advocate
- Challenging answers
- Seeking Clarity
- Observing and understanding interactions



Resources to help you become more professionally curious;

- Concerns about neglect? Use the [Neglect Identification Measurement Tool \(NIMT\)](#)
- Try these when talking safeguarding:
 - play 'devil's advocate'
 - present alternative theories
 - present cases from the view of the child, young person, adult or another family member.
- Share cases across the team where appropriate. This can provide opportunities for different views to be discussed within your team that may not have been previously considered and can often help those cases that feel "stuck".

