

## **Voice of the Child - Resources for Practitioners**

There are a range of free tools that can be used to capture the views, thoughts and feelings of a child and young person. There are different tools appropriate for children or young people of different ages, level of need or understanding. There are no factors including age, understanding or level of need that should be a barrier to capturing the views of a child or young person.

**Managers and Practitioners:** For further information about the importance of capturing the 'Voice of the Child' see our **Voice of the Child 7 Minute Briefing**

<https://www.rbscb.org/UserFiles/Docs/7%20Minute%20briefing/Voice%20of%20the%20Child.pdf>

### **Examples of Tools:**

#### **'Animal Talk' Activity: Using animal pictures to get to know children and discuss their views and feelings**

The tool contains 24 pictures of various animals and suggestions how they can be used to get to know children and discuss their views and feelings in an interactive and fun way.

<http://www.socialworkerstoolbox.com/animal-talk-activity-using-animal-pictures-get-know-children-discuss-views-feelings/>

#### **Autism Toolbox**

The Autism Toolbox website is a resource to support the inclusion of children and young people with autism spectrum disorder in mainstream education services as well introducing and describing some of the more common challenges a pupil with autism may face.

<http://www.autismtoolbox.co.uk/>

#### **Children's Participation Toolkit for Social Workers (Activities and Worksheets)**

This toolkit contains various activities, worksheets and templates assisting social workers and early help workers to involve children in the process of assessments, intervention planning as well as conducting reviews in a positive, supportive and enabling way.

Tools include: 'Three Houses', 'Life Paths', 'The Problem Tree', 'Helping Hand', 'Notes for my Assessment', 'Notes for my Conference', 'Scaling', 'Story Boards', 'LAC Consultation Booklet', 'Faces' and 'Feeling Worksheets'.

<http://www.socialworkerstoolbox.com/childrens-participation-toolkit-for-social-workers/>

#### **Communi-CRATE Worksheets – Sheffkids**

A range of worksheets developed by Sheffield's Children's Involvement Team, to aid direct work with children and young people. The worksheets are about obtaining children's wishes and feelings.

<http://www.sheffkids.co.uk/adultsite/pages/communicateworksheets.html>

### **Establishing a day in the life of a school age child (sheet)**

This tool supports practitioners to gain a good understanding of a child's or young person's daily routine. It should help to identify positives or strengths in the child's or young people's daily routine, as well highlighting areas where there may be concerns.

<http://www.socialworkerstoolbox.com/establishing-a-day-in-the-life-of-a-school-age-child-sheet/>

### **Getting to know a child's routine activity tool**

This tool supports social workers to gain an understanding of a child's or young person's daily routine in an engaging way. The document contains 40 plus individual slips with various activities / feelings which a child is asked to sort out into three piles: every day, sometimes or never, depending on how often they engage in this activity / have this particular feeling.

<http://www.socialworkerstoolbox.com/getting-know-childs-routine-tool/>

### **'Say it your own way' - Children's participation in assessment resources DfE / Barnardo's**

A compilation of 40+ worksheets facilitating children's participation in an assessment of them. The worksheets help workers to ascertain children's daily routine, likes, dislikes, feelings, wishes as well as their views on their family, friends, helpers, home, neighbourhood, school etc.

<http://www.socialworkerstoolbox.com/say-way-40-worksheets-facilitating-childrens-participation-assessment/>

### **Voice of the Child DVD and Worksheets**

This online resource was commissioned by Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership to remind practitioners and agencies who work with children and young people that they have a voice and they should be listened too. Topics covered: my ideal worker, an interaction, why do things go wrong, why it is important to listen, what skills does an adult worker need, when it works, what I need. Many of the scenes were filmed in Rochdale with local children and young people.

<http://www.gmsafeguardingchildren.co.uk/project/the-voice-of-the-child/>