

Module 3

Parents understanding of the impact of their behaviour on their child/ren

AIM:

- **Parents understanding of their lifestyle and functioning and the impact of this on their children's welfare and safety**
- **The multi – disciplinary teams understanding of the risks posed to the children by the parents lifestyle and functioning**

Parents understanding of the impact of their behaviour on their children

This session will address the parents understanding of any of the following and how their behaviour impacts on the child/ren:

- Adult Arguments and Violence
- Care by other Adults
- Substance/Alcohol Misuse
- Mental Health
- Child taking on carer responsibilities which interfere with the child's essential normal daily activities.
- The parent/s own self esteem.
- Strengths and qualities of the family and as individuals

For this module where appropriate consult with the relevant adult worker.

You may wish to use the Parenting continuum arrow, to support the parents identify what are Parent Centred/Adult behaviours and what are child centred adult behaviours. Using examples outlined in the Parenting continuum tool ask them to identify where these behaviours would be on the continuum, identifying behaviours that have a positive impact on the child/ren and those that would not, and how these less positive/negative behaviours might make the child feel.

Using the MI Decision Balance sheet explore good things about behaviour and not so good things about behaviour and what behaviours need to change. Using the nurturing wheel you then may wish to review their positive parenting behaviours.

Once level of behaviours are understood, work with Adult partner colleagues to identify any further specific work that can be undertaken to address the adult behaviours that are impacting on their parenting and having a negative impact on the child/ren.

Do they understand what their child/ren needs?

Identify things they would like to change and how life could be different for them and their child/ren if they made changes to their lifestyle or behaviour.

You may work with them to draw up a plan of what they want to change in their behaviour that they feel would improve life for their children and themselves.

Through this work identify what the Family Culture is, how they function as a family and what is important to them e.g. their religion, culture, identity, education, spending time together as a family etc. - this may include giving tasks to the family to carry out before the next session e.g. read bed time stories, read together (age dependant) cook/prepare a healthy meal together, identify times the parent can praise the child, an activity they can do together as a family maybe going out and doing an activity (and how the whole family managed the activity).

Suggested Tools & Resources

- **Decision balance sheet (MI)**
- **Parenting Continuum Exercise**
- **Graded Care Profile (*GCP Guidance, GCP Tool Kit, GCP Score Sheet*)**
- **Nurturing Wheel**
- **Domestic Violence Leaflet**
- **Effects of DA on Children**
- **Ways that DA may effect Children**
- **Things I would like to change**
- **Desired Changes**
- **Use the *MI Change Plan out line* and *MI Family plan Template* to identify changes**
- **Alcohol Abuse Questionnaire**
- **Checklist Aggressive Tendencies**
- **Checklist Accepting Responsibility for Angry / Violent Behaviour**
- **Checklist for Dominant and Submissive Behaviour**
- **Checklist for Drug Abuse**
- **End of Session Template**
- **Links to tools**
- **Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour Based Violence (DASH, 2009-16) Risk Identification and Assessment Management Model.**
- **Strengths**

Outcomes

- **Parents understanding of the impact of their behaviour on the child, and on their physical and emotional wellbeing.**
- **Professionals understanding of the impact of their behaviour on the child, and on their physical and emotional wellbeing**
- **Parents having a greater responsibility for their own actions**
- **Parents understanding and acting on what needs to change.**

- **Understanding of the parents' self-awareness and self esteem**
- **Understanding of the parent's knowledge and ability to know their child/ren's needs and how they can meet these needs and how self-esteem may impact on this.**
- **Improving the relationship between parent and child/ren**
- **Parents' awareness of expectations of children's behaviour, and ability to promote and encourage positive child behaviour**
- **Understand and acknowledge the parents strengths and qualities.**
- **Evaluate the levels of risk**