



Developing excellence
in response to FGM and
other harmful practices

Practice Reflection for FGM and Harmful Practices

This tool is to be used by social workers when reflecting on FGM cases and other harmful practices (e.g breast flattening or child abuse linked to faith or belief). Social workers should use this tool to reflect on their practice throughout a case. Social workers should aim to use this tool prior to supervision with their manager, and on an ongoing basis to then discuss within regular supervisions.

Information about the case:

Period of intervention with family (insert date):

Who poses the risk to the child(ren) and why:

Number of children in family (in the UK and overseas):

Child(ren) of concern (are there also children you are concerned about in the extended family?):

What is the risk?

What are the safety factors in the case?

What are the views of parent or carer? (please specify carer role):

What are the views of others in the child's life? (parent or carer not residing within the home, relatives etc):

What are the views of the children?

What tools did you use to gather this information? What disclosures were made? What did you observe?

What outcomes do you want to achieve for the children?

What outcomes do you want to achieve for the family if different for the child?

What work has been undertaken with the children and parents/carers in the family?

What else needs to be done by you and other professionals?

What actions do you need to take? What actions do parents or carers need to take?

Reflection; since you last saw the family:

What steps have you taken to minimise the risk to the child(ren)?

What steps have you taken to strengthen and build on protective factors? What difference has been made to the child's health or development?

How do you know the outcomes you want to achieve for the children are being met?

What else do you need to do? What barriers have you identified and overcome?

What other professionals have you involved in the case (if any) and what difference has this made to the outcome of the case?

If the child(ren) and family were asked what went well, what did they say?

What have you learnt and how has this enhanced your practice?

What lessons have you learnt?

What would you do differently in future cases and why?