



Centre for Professional Practice

Voice of the Child in the Assessment

Points to remember:

The Voice of the Child should be included within your assessment.

If a child is unable to verbally contribute to the assessment, observations and analysis of the child should be included where appropriate.

If you are in a position to work with other professionals to ensure that all children are seen then this is a clear example of good Early Help practice and should continue. If you are not in the position to ensure that all children in a family are seen, please seek advice from Early Help Enablers.

If it is felt that a child is too young to express a view, putting **'child is too young' is no longer an acceptable answer.**

You would need to state that “while [name of child] is too young to express their views on the concerns raised, it is expected that they would like to live in a house free from [stress/domestic abuse/ substance misuse/ emotional harm/other concerns]”

There MUST be clear evidence in the assessment that children were seen as part of the assessment process and who saw them.