**SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELL-BEING (WALES) ACT**

**HANDOUT**

**Analysing Risk for Children**

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| **High Concern** | **Low Concern** |
| Current injury / harm is severe pattern of harm which is continuing / escalating  Parent indicating repeat behaviour likely  Access to vulnerable persons  Diagnosis of untreatable mental health and substance misuse  A history of interpersonal conflict and violence – power and control issues, poor negotiation and lack of autonomy  Recent separation or recurrent reconciliations  Uncontrolled contact between perpetrator and child  The parent unwilling or unable to protect the children  High levels of trauma in parents, childhood not recognised as a problem  Previous child protection concerns with no significant changes effected or sustained  Parents not accepting their behaviour is  a concern and are unwilling to work with practitioners  Children too young to be able to take any action to protect themselves and require rapid parental change  Child presenting as fearful of parents or other household member  Children engaging in self-harm, substance misuse, dangerous sexual behaviour or other ‘at risk’ behaviours  Parent is young – under 21 years  Evidence of social isolation and lack of social supports  Resident in violent, unsupportive neighbourhood  Parent experiencing high levels of stress  Physical and social environment chaotic, hazardous and unsafe  Family remaining unpredictable and potential for change limited | No history of significant trauma or abuse  Recognition of the problem  Perpetrator demonstrating remorse/ empathy  Perpetrator accepting responsibility for their behaviour  Children able to protect themselves if the need arises  Healthy peer relationships  No documented school problems  No history of behavioural / emotional problems  Parental mental health and / or substance problem responsive to treatment  Parent with empathy for the child  Parental competence and capacity in key areas of parenting  Risk reactive to circumstances (eg loss) and parents / carers display capacity to make improvement and change  Family with access to social support / networks and access to child care facilities  Difficulties, illness or disabilities on the part of the adult carers temporary  Stressors within normal range of  day-today  Circumstances and carers display capacity to cope |
| **High Strength** | **Low Strength** |
| Parents demonstrating good protective attitudes and behaviours  Family with clear, positive boundaries in place  Family demonstrating good communications  Family demonstrating ability to positively process emotional issues  Family positive about receiving help  Young person living in supportive environment  Network of support and supervision available to young person  Young person with positive plans and goals  Young person with positive relationship with school / work  Young person with experienced consistent positive care  Young person with at least one emotional confidant  Young person with good problem solving and negotiation skills  Family being adaptive and developed new coping strategies when stressed  Parent / carer demonstrating empathy and responds appropriately to cues of others  Family taking responsibility for their own behaviour  Able to manage frustration and unfavourable events – displaying good self-regulation when confronted with stress or difficulty  Resolving conflicts and make decisions that support stability and recovery (assertive, tolerant, forgiving, cooperative; able to negotiate and compromise)  Thinking and communicating effectively (rational cognitive processing; adequate verbal skills; able to focus on the tasks requiring attention) | Parents and young person appearing not to care what happens  Young person with poor communication skills  Young person with no support/ is rejected by parents / carers  Young person excluded from school  Family / young person appear isolated  Absence of supportive / structured living environment  Parents / carers unwilling / unable to supervise  Family enmeshed in unhealthy social networks  Family with high levels of stress  History of unresolved significant abuse in family  Family unable to understand the consequences of their behaviour  Family refusing to engage or only engage conditionally with services  Lack of available resources to meet identified needs resources (familial  and professional)  Family seem vulnerable in the face of perceived external threat  Family displaying low self-esteem  Family / child with negative expectations and goals  Family isolated and lacking in supports |