

WEDNESDAY



Learning from Reviews, 24 - 28 June 2024

Safeguarding children is complex and reliant on services working together. Ongoing development of knowledge, skills and confidence is essential for multi-agency professionals working with children and families. One key area for strengthening multi-agency practice lies in [Learning from Reviews](#).



HONEST CONVERSATIONS

Professionals are required to have honest conversations with parents/carers, children, and other professionals. It can sometimes be difficult to navigate these conversations, and to convey what needs to be said in an understanding and accepting way. It is important to have honest conversations as avoiding doing so can have implications for safeguarding.

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FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Practitioners can sometimes be over optimistic about parents' and carers' progress and ability to care for the child or their promises/intentions to engage with services. Practitioners may rationalise a parent's behaviour, for example, non-engagement with services as a matter of 'parental choice' rather than being not able to, for whatever reason. Learning from reviews shows that practitioners tend to accept information from parents/carers as fact without applying professional curiosity and investigating further.

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PROFESSIONAL CURIOSITY

Professional curiosity is where a practitioner explores and proactively tries to understand what is happening within a family or for an individual, rather than making assumptions or taking a single source of information and accepting it at face value.

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Why is Learning from Reviews important?

[Grace Mason, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#)

Always have the conversation. That is where professional curiosity and understanding the child's lived experience begins.