

## Testing your 0-5 provision from a baby or child's perspective

These scenarios have been developed to help you to test your local pathways in terms of support to for parent infant and early years relationships.

- What would happen to this child and his or her family if they were in your area?
  - How would anyone know they were having problems or at risk?
  - What support would they receive? Would that be enough?
1. I have been developing in mum's womb for 30 weeks. I had an older sister, but she died just before she was born. Mum and dad are really worried about that happening to me. They haven't bought anything, set up a nursery, or thought about what to call me. Mum occasionally gives my bump a rub or talks to me, but she is very anxious and sad. Can someone help mum and dad get ready for me?
  2. I was born today. My mum and dad have a stormy relationship that has been violent at times and they didn't really want me. They haven't prepared much for my arrival, or talked to me while I've been inside. Now I'm on the postnatal ward with mum. I'm being left in my cot a lot, and not getting many cuddles. Can anyone help?
  3. I am 4 days old. I was born 7 weeks early, which was a surprise to everyone including me. I find it hard to breathe and stay warm and I can't feed by myself yet, so I am being looked after in an incubator on a neonatal unit. Mostly I want to sleep, and I find it uncomfortable and stressful when people touch me as part of my care. My parents can't be with me all the time and I haven't even met my siblings yet. We want to be able to cuddle together like other families, but it is scary when I am so small and fragile and there are so many wires and tubes getting in the way. Who can help us?
  4. I am 9 months old. My mum is very anxious, particularly around food. I'm very interested in food and I like watching people and reaching out. My mum gets upset when I do that and says things like, I'm not ready or I might choke or that my hands are too dirty. What can you do for me?
  5. I am 15 months old. My mum travelled to this country to escape persecution in her home country. We are living in a hotel because we are waiting to find out if we are allowed to stay. It can feel scary staying here as it can be noisy and we don't have much space or many things or toys for me to play with. My mum doesn't speak much English. She can seem distracted sometimes and is stressed. Can anyone help?

6. I am 24 months old. When I get frustrated with other children I can bite and hit. I don't know why this happens, but my feelings can be too big to cope with sometimes. My mum and dad used to take me to play groups and to other peoples' houses to play, but now they are so anxious and fed up with my behaviour that we stay home a lot. Can someone help my mum and dad to help me?
7. I am 2 and a half. My big sister who is 4 was recently diagnosed with blood cancer. My mum seems different now and is very worried all the time. She needs to spend a lot of time looking after my sister and taking her to appointments. My mum has become scared to leave the house or have any professionals come to our home. We have become very isolated and I feel lonely sometimes. Will anyone help us?
8. I am nearly 3 years old. When I was 18 months old, my life was very chaotic and I experienced neglect. I was placed in foster care, and I have been living with my foster family ever since. I love my foster mum but I get scared about being abandoned again and I find it difficult to trust the adults in my life. Can you help me?
9. I am 3. I love running and climbing and jumping. I live in a flat with my dad and my neighbours told him that it is too noisy when they are trying to rest. This made dad worry and now he tries to get me to sit still and watch tv. We don't go out much as my dad doesn't have enough money to buy wellies and warm coats. Can anyone help us?
10. I am 3.5 and I love going to nursery and spending time with other children. But I can see that there are things that they can do that I can't, and it is starting to bother me. Other children ask me why I am not like them and I don't like to feel different. I can see that it is worrying my Mum and Dad too. Can anyone help me?
11. I am 4. I have moved around a lot and other people have lived with us at times. At pre-school I am quiet and don't play much with other children. I have developed a good bond with my keyworker and am very anxious to leave her, particularly if different adults come into the setting. I am very jumpy and startle easily. When something goes wrong, like a spill my drink, I get very upset and am hard to console. Can anyone help me?
12. I am 4 and a half. My mum has always cared for me but does get worried about me as I was born prematurely and spent several weeks in a neonatal unit. I am starting school soon and I am very worried about this and being away from my mum. We both cried when I went for a visit and are both anxious. Can anyone help us?