

Child Profile

Journeying well with a child starts with getting to know them - identifying and noticing what they enjoy and what they find helpful as well as what they might find challenging or stressful.

We also need to 'tune in' to how they communicate. Children will often communicate through their behaviour - if we can learn to 'translate' their communication and listen when they are telling us through their behaviour that they may be struggling, then we can begin to respond with appropriate support that may prevent behaviour incidents.

Use the Child Profile together with the Wonderful Me! Behaviour Reflection Tool help you gather all of that valuable learning into one place and share it with team members to ensure your care and support for each child is effective and consistent. - You will find further support on using the Wonderful Me! Behaviour Reflection tool and the Child Profile in the Wonderful Me! PACE training session - details are on the website.

Which children benefit from a Child Profile?

It has been said that 'If you've met one person with autism, then you have met **one** person with autism'. For children who may have a diagnosis of Additional Needs, a Child Profile will not only help you gather important information into one place and share it well with volunteers, it will also help you understand what Additional Needs look like for that particular child.

Child Profiles are also useful for children who may display challenging behaviour. The **Wonderful Me! Behaviour Reflection tool** will help you begin to learn triggers that might cause distress for a child, as well as identify strategies that help them to regulate. That useful information can then be recorded on the Child Profile and shared with team members. Remember that child profiles are working documents - review and update them termly.

How to use this tool



DO IT COLLABORATIVELY!

The phrase '**NOTHING ABOUT ME WITHOUT ME**' is a really useful reminder here.

Wherever possible, tools like this should be used collaboratively with parents/carers and with children. Children are often quite aware of what helps them and what doesn't - remember to bring curiosity and ask them what they find challenging and about the things they find helpful.

Parents/carers are experts in their children - building good relationships with parents/carers where they feel listened to and can build trust is hugely important. Always remember to ask parents/carers permission to share information that they share with you with other team members.



FOLLOW YOUR CHURCH GDPR AND SAFEGUARDING POLICIES

It is very important to remember that Child Profiles contain very sensitive information and, as such, should be used carefully and stored safely in a locked cupboard.

The purpose of a child profile is to gather and record useful information to ensure that all team members understand how best to support the needs of every child and as such, it is important that team members have regular opportunity to read child profiles. However, care should be taken to ensure that documents are only seen by safely recruited team members, that they are not left lying around and that they are stored securely.



KEEP IT BRIEF!

Child Profiles are designed to be a snap shot of key information that are easy and quick to read. Use bullet points and notes rather than full sentences!

Completing the form

Things I love - What hobbies, interests does the child have? - These can be great conversation starters!

Urgent Information - This could include allergies / who is allowed to collect a child / any particular triggers

Summary of helpful information - Include particular needs, diagnoses

Things that help me - Consider strategies such as sand timers / visual timetables, trusted adults

Things I find challenging - Are there particular activities that a child may struggle with?

Signs I might be starting to struggle - This might be through words, actions or body language

Things that help me when I am starting to struggle - Distraction / Sensory Activity ...

Things that make me angry ... - Have you identified any particular triggers?

Things that help when I am angry ... - What helps to calm me if I have become distressed



Introducing ...

Name:

Date of Birth:

Things I love:



Urgent information:

Summary of helpful information

Things that help me:

Things I find challenging

Signs I might be starting to struggle ...

Things that help me when I am starting to struggle ...

Things that make me angry/ upset/ embarrassed ...

Things that help me when I feel angry/ upset/ embarrassed ...

Introducing ...

Name: J W

Date of Birth: 12/11/16

Things I love: Football, Motorbikes



Urgent information:

- Can run away - flight risk

Summary of helpful information

- ADHD
- Lives in a busy house with lots of siblings
- Values check-in time with an adult

Things that help me

- My team leader, Josh
- Visual timetable
- Sandtimer
- Clear reminder of the boundaries (rules)
- Use my name before you give me an instruction
- Use of fixed choices

Things I find challenging

- When it is time to finish playing football
- When my team leader is not around
- Story time

Signs I might be starting to struggle ...

- I furrow my brow
- I begin to spin on my chair or on the floor

Things that help me when I am starting to struggle ...

- Squeezing a squish ball / a leaders hand
- A leader checking in with me
- A change of activity

Things that make me angry/ upset/ embarrassed ...

- If someone doesn't follow the rules in football

Things that help me when I feel angry/ upset/ embarrassed ...

- Kicking a football with a leader
- Distraction - set me a challenge