



Child Focused Restorative and Relational Questions

The questions below can be used as a prompt for reflecting on an event or situation impacting on a child. These questions, while you may not be using them directly with a child, open a professional curiosity to consider the child’s perspective, impact on the child and focus towards a solution. This can be done as a reflective exercise within your own individual practice or as a discussion with colleagues in supervision or team meetings. The questions can also prompt others to connect with the child’s experience, this can be used with family, carers and professionals.

Question	Why is the question important
1) What happened? What is the child's experience? How do you know?	Remaining child centred, grounded in understanding their experience and perspective.
2) What was the child thinking? How were they feeling? How do they feel now?	Linking thoughts, feelings and behaviour.
3) How has the child affected by what has happened? What has the impact been?	A focus on harm and how to repair this harm; on the effect of the action and who has been affected.
4) What does the child need to move forward?	An appreciation of individual needs and also that there is much similarity between the needs on all sides.
5) So what needs to happen now? What support does the child need? Who can help them? What do others need to do?	Ownership of problem-solving and decision making by those directly involved Accountability; empowerment; collaborative problem-solving

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