

## Ability to develop and maintain engagement

An ability to engage all members of the system in an empathic, respectful and even handed way:
by giving each member of the system the opportunity to communicate
by showing an interest in all communications
An ability to present the rationale for a systemic approach to the client(s) (and the wider system) and to use a variety of developmentally appropriate methods (written and verbal) to aid their understanding of, and continued engagement with, the work
An ability to monitor engagement and to identify when issues arise which may threaten engagement (e.g. when members of the system family feel guilty or blamed, or seem to find the systemic approach puzzling)
An ability to ensure that each member of the system understands the purpose of attending:
an ability to make explicit and value of the unique perspective of each individual on the functioning of the family
an ability to help individual members to identify overlapping goals and objectives