



Break into small groups. You will be allocated one of the following to focus on: culture, structure, practice or review.

Culture: You should consider what is the dominant culture within different organisations about children, parents and families' participation. You should share your thoughts on how and whether children and parents' can participate, and how this influences the decision you make about individual family members.

Structure: You should consider whether the structures of different organisations help or hinder participation by children, parents and other family members.

Practice: You should reflect on what the actual practice is of including children and their families, and whether you should and could make changes to facilitate this better. Think about what you and colleagues in other agencies could do to assist individual participation, and also what you might do to try and ensure that the voices of children, parents and families are represented in a meaningful way in service planning and review.

Review: You should consider how often a child and family's participation within different organisations (either at an individual level, or a more strategic level) is reviewed, and who is involved in any review of participation, for example, is it adults only?

In the larger group share your ideas about what can be done in each of the above domains to assist individual participation, and also what you might do to ensure that the voices of children, parents and other family members are represented in a meaningful way in service planning and review. Discuss possible positive outcomes (immediate and longer term) for children, parents and families as a result of increased participation.

<u>further</u>

Working with children, parents and families

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