

Working together in partnership to restore trust

Genuine Partnerships is a group of parent/carers, young people and practitioners that work together to support the development of trusting relationships and equal partnership working. Based on research originally completed by Rotherham Parent/Carer forum and Rotherham Educational Psychology Service with children and young people with SEND and parent carers, 4 Cornerstones for Coproduction were identified that have been adopted nationally as the foundations for building trusting partnerships.



This document, using the Cornerstones, provides a framework for thinking about and recording our experiences of working with others. It uses an appreciative approach highlighting positive experiences and asking how things could be even better.

There are times when relationships feel strained, challenging and can breakdown; this can make it difficult to trust those partnerships and leave us feeling vulnerable. Experiencing vulnerability, without a sense of trust in those around us, can activate psychological defences that are difficult to control. If we do not feel trust in the relationships we have, vulnerability is extremely challenging and can lead to attempts to identify responsibility and blame within these relationships. This generates further experiences of vulnerability that continues a cycle of blame, shame, and mistrust. When this process takes over our interactions it is difficult to move beyond them.

This activity asks individuals to consider what has worked well for them in the past (as much or as little as that may be) and to consider what they would hope for moving forward. When completing the activity, it is important to reflect on our experiences and the words we use to communicate them; blame easily sneaks into our conversations often without us even noticing until it is there.

Welcome and Care

I felt welcomed and cared for when:

It is even better when:

Value and Include

I felt valued and included when:

It is even better when:

Communication

Communication has been good when:

It is even better when:

Working in Partnership

Working in partnership has been good when:

It is even better when: