

7. Further information

Updates on the implementation of Signs of Safety approaches can be found on the DSCP website

<http://www.durham-scp.org.uk/professionals/signs-of-safety/>

Using Signs of safety approaches in everyday practice can be found [here](#)

A full briefing paper on Signs of Safety [here](#)

1. What is Signs of Safety?

Signs of Safety is a constantly evolving approach to child protection casework. Above everything, the approach focuses on practices, tools and methods that make a real difference for professionals and families facing the complex problems of child abuse.

In this video, the principal co-creator of the approach, Dr Andrew Turnell, gives a brief overview of the model.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6WYm4F9mik>

6. Available support

SOS practice leads are established across agencies to support staff with SOS practice.

This includes facilitating supervisions using the SOS approach

5. Awareness Raising

Over 600 practitioners across our partnership have now attended half day Signs of Safety (SOS) Briefings..

2 day training for practice leads within agencies took place in June 2019.



2. Core Principles of SOS –

Working relationships are paramount

Think critically

Based on everyday experience

3. SOS Columns

4. Tools and Techniques:

Danger Statements
Safety Goals

Scaling Questions
Words and Pictures
Three Houses
Wizards and Fairies

Signs of Safety Assessment and Planning Form

What are we Worried About?	Whats Working Well?	What Needs to Happen?
<p>Past Harm to Children Action/Behaviour – who, what, where, when; Severity; Incidence & Impact.</p>	<p>Existing Strengths</p>	<p>SafetyGoals: Future Safety/Protection What must the caregivers be doing in their care of the child that addresses the future danger?</p>
<p>Danger Statements: Future Danger for Children Worries for the future if nothing changes.</p>	<p>Existing Safety/Protection The Strengths demonstrated as protection over time. Must directly relate to danger.</p>	<p>Family Goals: What does the family want generally and in relation to safety?</p>
<p>Complicating Factors Factors which make the situation more difficult to resolve.</p>		<p>Next Steps What are the next steps to be taken to move towards achieving the goal?</p>

Safety Scale On a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 means everyone knows the children are safe enough for the child protection authorities to close the case and 10 means things are so bad for the children they can't live at home, where do we rate this situation? (If different judgments please different people's number on the continuum)

0 ←————→ 10