

**Family character dimension**

**Family alliances**

**The relationships between family members**

**Family tasks** eg Who is like whom Who takes after whom Doing family sculpt Constructing family genogram Children starting school/young people leaving home How children's names were chosen Describe the family

**Couple partnership** –degree of support, warmth, respect, mutual satisfaction and appropriate balance of assertion

How came/stayed together Similarity/difference in viewpoints View of selves as a couple Things most appreciate/more difficult Best/worst times What happened Separations and getting back together What children told Children's understanding	<b>Description of strengths and difficulties</b>		
<b>Reasonable strengths</b>	<b>Moderate strengths and difficulties</b>	<b>Considerable difficulties</b>	
Basically satisfactory, some discontent, evidence of support, respect & a balance of assertion	Periods of satisfaction with times when both partners dissatisfied, overt hostility & conflict, lack of appropriate balance in relationship	Destructive relationships, couple at war or isolated & not relating, no evidence of support or warmth, markedly unbalanced relationship or competition for dominance	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tick appropriate level

**Parental partnership** – nature and effectiveness of working together, level of agreement and satisfaction with partnership

Level of agreement/disagreement Taking the lead Sharing parenting & satisfaction Satisfaction/dissatisfactions with other in parent role Decision to have children Who most motivated Particular worries about each child Satisfaction with how have been as a family	<b>Description of strengths and difficulties</b>		
<b>Basic agreement, despite some deficiencies in working together, satisfaction with partnership</b>	<b>Parents can work together at times though clearly disagree repeatedly at times and/or act without reference to one another, some dissatisfaction with parenting of other parent</b>	<b>Not working together, divisive, conflicted, significantly unbalanced partnership</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tick appropriate level

**Parent-child relationship** – degree of engagement, support, encouragement and understanding of parents towards children

Positives about each child Do parents see children as different from each other What are they like Responses brought out in parents by each child Rivalry/competition/fighting Parents' arguments with the children How children treat parents Dyads or triads who are close/distant	<b>Description of strengths and difficulties</b>			
Basic support, engagement, and participation by parents with children, understanding of individual children evident	Some support and encouragement with some unsupportive and harmful parental attitudes and behaviours, some poor understanding, children used to detour conflict	Both parents reject, ignore, exploit, attack, disqualify or scapegoat children, some children isolated		

Tick appropriate level

**Child-parent relationship** – degree of security and engagement of children with parents, level of demand made by children

Positives about how parents are as parents Difficulties about how parents are as parents How parents treat children Whether children wish parents helped them more & how Other things wished different	<b>Description of strengths and difficulties</b>			
Secure and engaged responses, children make reasonable demands and are responsive to parents, some difficulties in some areas	Some engagement and responsiveness by children towards parents though one or more children oppositional, withdrawn, over-dependent or domineering	Children avoid, reject, oppose or cling to parents or marked differentiation of response to each parent		

Tick appropriate level

**Sibling relationship** – degree of affiliation, concern and affection and degree of rivalry and competition

Positives about sibling group Who gets on/does not get on with whom What happens? Roles in sibling group Level of fighting Level of jealousy Who helps who & how Who makes things worse for whom & how	<b>Description of strengths and difficulties</b>			
Affiliation reasonable, some quarrelling, avoidance but affection and concern evident	Some affiliation and affection accompanied by obvious discord or distance between siblings	Fight continually, ignore, extreme rivalry, competition for attention		

Tick appropriate level

**Overall strengths and difficulties for family alliances** – (Circle as appropriate)

Reasonable strengths	Moderate strengths and difficulties	Considerable difficulties		
5	4	3	2	1