

### Durham Harm / Worry Matrix

Behaviour	Timespan	Severity			Impact on the child
		First	Worst	Last	
<p>Headline issues - what has happened to the child/young person? (e.g. sexual abuse/exploitation)</p> <p>Also consider any behaviour that the child/young person might be showing that that is harmful to themselves or others</p>	<p>How long has this been a worry?</p> <p>How often has it happened?</p> <p>Remember, this isn't a chronology so we don't need to list each incident – this is about giving us an overview of timespan and frequency</p>	<p>What was the first incident that we know of that caused harm and when was this?</p> <p>Add context here and check the detail out from different people's perspectives</p>	<p>What was the worst incident that we know of and when?</p> <p>Add context here and check the detail out from different people's perspectives – the worst incident is often subjective and may differ depending on who you speak to.</p> <p>What would the child/young person say is the worst thing that happened?</p>	<p>What was the last significant incident that we know of and when?</p> <p>Add context here and check the detail out from different people's perspectives</p>	<p>Consider: how do we know?</p> <p>Use the child/young person's own words</p> <p>How is the child/young person coping with what has happened to them?</p> <p>What is the child/young person showing us in their behaviour?</p> <p>What does this mean for the child/young person?</p> <p>Be careful not to get into victim blaming, particularly where the child/young person is behaving in ways that are harmful to themselves as a result of what has happened to them in their life</p>

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**Future questions to ask**  
**(What are the gaps in your information? Use relationship questions to explore the behaviour and impact from different people’s perspectives, e.g. the child/young person; their family; practitioners)**

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