

## Children's Perception of Interparental Conflict Scale- Guidance

### **Purpose**

The Childrens Perception of Interparental Conflict Scale examines the views of children aged 9-17 regarding parental conflict. The assessment should be completed alone with the child with parental consent. The tool provides information about the child's views regarding in the following areas

- Frequency of conflict (Higher score indicates higher frequency)
- Intensity of conflict (Higher score indicates higher intensity)
- Resolution (Higher score indicates poorly resolved conflict)
- Content (Higher score indicates the child is a significant feature of the conflict)
- Triangulation (Higher scores indicate the child is drawn into conflict between parents)

### **Scoring**

The tool will automatically calculate the relevant scores for you, this will allow you to target your intervention. Care should be taken in how these scores are presented to parents and that this is done sensitively with the child being made aware of the reasoning behind information being shared. If there are concerns about this process speak to your manager in the first instance. If discussion around conflict results in the child disclosing incidents of domestic abuse appropriate safeguarding procedures should be followed.

### **Guidance for usage**

Depending on the age and understanding of the child you may wish to administer the tool interactively instead of utilising the forms. One approach you may wish to consider is cutting out the statements attached to the bottom of the form and asking the child to match them to a container or pile. This will allow you to keep the session informal whilst providing you with opportunities to discuss some of the answers the child selects to gain more context.

Ensure you record the answers the child provides and complete the form following the session. If the child you are working with would prefer to complete the form then this tool may be printed out to be completed on paper with the child you can then copy this data onto the electronic version to obtain scores. You should then gain consent from the child to share this with their parents

Upon receiving the scores these should be shared with the parents to develop their awareness of the impact conflict may be having on their child. For the child suitable interventions should be determined by your follow up discussions about how the child manages the conflict. For example, if the child is displaying challenging emotions or behaviour in response to the conflict emotional wellbeing packages should be considered. Alternatively, if the child is physically removing themselves from the home to avoid conflict consider local youth group support.

Assessment should be revisited every twelve weeks to determine the impact any selected intervention is having on parental conflict. Remember this tool is not a replacement for the child's voice but it can be used to amplify it as it can often get lost in parental conflict.

## Children's Perception of Interparental Conflict Scale Short Scale

In every family there are times when parents don't get along. When their parents argue or disagree, children can feel a lot of different ways. We would like to know how you experience, and what kind of feelings you have, when your parents have arguments or disagreements. If your parents don't live together, think about times that they are together, and they don't agree.

	<b>True</b>	<b>Sort of True</b>	<b>False</b>
1- My parents get really mad when they argue			
2- I feel caught in the middle when my parents argue			
3- They may not think I know it, but my parents argue or disagree a lot			
4- Even after my parents stop arguing they stay mad at each other			
5- I often see my parents arguing			
6-When my parents argue they usually come up with a solution			
7- My parents arguments are usually about something I did			
8- When my parents have an argument they say mean things to each other			
9- My mum wants me to be on her side when she and my dad argue			
10- My parents hardly ever argue			
11- When my parents argue they usually make up right away			

	<b>True</b>	<b>Sort of True</b>	<b>False</b>
12- My parents usually argue or disagree because of things that I do			
13- When my parents have an argument they yell a lot			
14- My parents hardly ever yell when they have a disagreement			
15- My parents often get into arguments when I do something wrong			
16- My Dad wants me to be on his side when he and my mum argue			
17- My parents still act mean after they have had an argument			

## Scoring

Upon completing this tool with the child input the results onto the digital copy. For support in analysing the scores please ensure you read the attached practitioner guide.

Frequency Score (out of 6)	
Intensity Score (out of 8)	
Resolution Score (out of 8)	
Child Content Score (out of 6)	
Triangulation Score (out of 6)	