## Example questions - Early Help Assessment

### Relationships

**Family and social relationships:** The ability to empathise and build stable and affectionate relationships with others, including family, peers and the wider community.

How far the infant, child or young person is building stable and affectionate relationships with others, including family, peers and the wider community.

* Whom do you call family? How often you see them?
* What do you enjoy doing with your family?
* How important are your friends to you?
* Do you have a ‘best friend’? If so, who is that and why are they so special for you?
* Do you have to help to look after anyone?
* *Does the child respond to their name?*
* *Can the child identify their mother’s and/or father’s voice?*

**Family history, functioning and well-being:** The impact of family situations and experiences.

Who lives in the household and how they relate to the infant, child or young person, including any changes since the child's birth; family routines; and anything about the family history, such as family breakdown, illnesses (physical or mental) or problems with alcohol or other substances that are having an impact on the child’s development.

* When you want to know something about your family, whom might you ask?
* Is there some predictable routine to your family life at home, for example, in relation to meal times, bed times and who will be at home when?
* Tell me what you did for your last birthday?
* Think about a really good time you enjoyed with your family. What was it, and what made it so special for you?
* Is there someone in your family that you know and trust that you could turn to for help if you needed to?
* Is there someone in your family that your parents/carers know and trust that they could turn to for help if they needed to?
* *How does your baby indicate what he/she needs?*
* *How does your baby respond to different family members?*

**Wider family:** The family’s relationships with relatives and non-relatives.

Whether there is an appropriate level of help for the infant, child, young person or parents/carers from relatives and others.

* Other than your family, who is important to you in your life?
* Are there people in your neighbourhood or community that you know and trust that you could turn to for help if you needed to?
* Are there people in your neighbourhood or community that your carers know and trust that they could turn to for help if they needed to?
* Can someone who is not really a member of your family, feel like family and be just as important, and do you have anyone like that in your family?