Quality Assurance Framework – Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire

This Template is used to track a SDQ responses over a period of time by entering the carer's individual SDQ outcome scores into a scale table that is compared to the average age group scaling scores. The carer scores are colour coded to the average age group to provide a visual overview and also refers to the Decision Making Pyramid and can demonstrate changes over time. An example is provided below

	Close to Average	Slightly Raised	High	Very High
Total Difficulties Score	0-13	14-16	17-19	20-40
Emotional Problems Scale	0-3	4	5-6	7-10
Conduct Problem Scale	0-2	3	4-5	6-10
Hyperactivity Scale	0-5	6-7	8	9-10
Peer Problem Scale	0-2	3	4	5-10
Impact on young person's life	0	1	2	3-10
Prosocial Score	8-10	7	6	0-5

Average Age Group Scores

Date of SDQ	Total Difficulty Score	Emotional	Conduct	Hyperactivity	Peer	Impact	Prosocial
20/04/20	23/40	4/10	7/10	6/10	6/10	4/10	5/10
28/11/20	15/40	2/10	4/10	4/10	3/10	2/10	5/10

Mock SDQ Carer Scores

The Quality Assurance Framework
SDQ Total Difficulty Score – Decision Making Pyramid

20-40 Very High — Score 20-40: Very high
Recommended actions:
- This must be discussed with a Manager, Psychologist or appropriate Mental Health Professional (MHP)
- Discussion with an external mental health provider if already involved with the child or young person
- Consider referral to CAMHS/other appropriate support services
- Frequent home visits will be required.

17-19 High — Score 17-19: High
Recommended actions:
- This must be discussed with a Manager, Psychologist or appropriate MHP
- Discuss with any external services that may be already involved with the child or young person
- Frequent home visits may be required.

14-16 Slightly Raised — Score 14-16: Slightly raised
Recommended actions:
- Discuss with Manager
- Follow-up with carer/child/YP. Specifically looking at what the other SDQ scales may have indicated as a problem for the child/YP
- This may require a follow-up visit outside the required monthly home visits
- MHP involvement recommended as an early intervention approach.

0-13 Close to Average — Score 0-13: Close to average
Recommended actions:
- If at the upper end of the range, look more closely at individual scales within the SDQ
- Watchful waiting/monitoring

Disclaimer: The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) is to be used as a screener for mental health difficulties in children or young people. It is always important to consider the context of the scores in this report and seek further advice from managers, psychologists and/or mental health professionals if there are concerns that are not reflected in these scores.

Note: This pyramid is intended only as a guide.

SDQ Comment: The carer responses varied between **very high** to **slightly raised** in the initial questionnaire and scores reduce across all domains in the second questionnaire apart from prosocial. This may indicate that the child is settling in placement. It may be helpful to talk to the carer about what type of helpful behaviours she would expect to see from a 3½ year-old and link this to an early incentive system. Does the carer need support or are the supports that are in place assisting the child to continue to settle and monitor in relation to the next SDQ scores due in May 2021?

Quality Assurance Framework – Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire - Scores over time

Quality Assurance Framework – Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire

Template: SDQ Comparative Scores Over-Time

Child or Young Person: **DOB/Age:**   **Carer:**

Date of SDQ	Total Difficulty Score	Emotional	Conduct	Hyperactivity	Peer	Impact	Prosocial

*Add rows to table as required

	Close to Average	Slightly Raised	High	Very High
Total Difficulties Score	0-13	14-16	17-19	20-40
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Average Age Group Scores

SDQ Comment:

Recommendation:

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