

Theme Topic

History taking School reports

School

We have encouraged you to make an assessment of the child's **level of functioning**. Your routine history will tell you quite a bit about family life, but you may feel you need to know more about **school**.

Some useful questions to ask parents or children about school:

- What are her areas of strength? Areas of concern? When did it start to cause problems?
- Have any assessments been done? Results?
- How does he get on with teachers? If there are problems, why do you think there are?
- Engagement with sport and other leisure activities?
- Relationships with peers? Bullied? Bullying?
- Have you raised concerns with the school? What was their response?

Consider contacting the school to ask a similar range of questions (with permission from the family). It might seem potentially time consuming, but the investment is often well repaid in both information and more collaborative approaches to the child and family.

It is a good idea to ask to speak to the principal or deputy, rather than the classroom teacher – this fits with school expectations.

If other agencies are also involved, consider a **case conference** – the school will probably be happy to help you organise it.