

Case Studies Template

Background

Child(ren) who is/are subject(s) of the referral/plan. - anonymised.
Louise aged 14 years, history of low moods, risky behaviours and anger problems.
Family Structure (e.g. divorced mother with three children aged 7, 5 & 2).
Louise lives with mother, step father, brother and step brother. Louise has a good relationship with her step father and describes him as supportive and someone she can always go to. She has a difficult relationship with her mother and they argue frequently with neither prepared to give in during an argument. Louise has no contact with her birth father; she describes him as a violent alcoholic of whom she is afraid. Louise has a close relationship with her sister and little niece who live nearby. Louise was very close to her grandmother who died recently; Louise will not talk about this and becomes visibly upset and/or angry when her grandmother is mentioned.
What was the situation before the work was undertaken? Describe the presenting difficulties leading to the referral. This should tell the reader what the situation was before a course of action was taken
Louise is in good health and has no ongoing physical concerns; although previously she was considered overweight, she recently had a growth spurt. Louise's parents worry about the amount of time she spends out of the home and the levels of anger she displays in all settings, which has resulted in two permanent exclusions from school. Louise's parents would like her to come home from school each day before going out and to come home by an agreed time each evening. If she is running late, they want her to contact her Mum and let her know where she is. Louise and her mother have regular arguments and Louise feels that she is treated differently to her brother, whom she feels her mother always gives in to or sides with. Her mother denies this and says that Louise just erupts into anger at the slightest provocation whereas her brother will accept if he has done something wrong. Louise also argues frequently with her brother who she says winds her up and blames her for everything. She gets on better with her step brother although they tend not to have much to do with each other. Louise has low self-esteem and finds it very difficult to talk about herself in a positive way; she struggles with any compliment and will often disagree or laugh it off. Louise is currently a student at an Alternative Education Provision (AEP) following a permanent exclusion from secondary school 18 months ago due to sustained aggressive behaviours towards pupils and staff. She was then enrolled on a pre-16 course at the local college but was excluded after a few months due to disruptive behaviour in lessons and a generally poor attitude towards her teachers. Louise spent

a short time out of education before commencing at AEP and her attendance is of concern at present.

Louise currently attends a pre-school setting two days a week as part of a work placement and her career plan is to work with young children. She would like to go to college to study Child Care. Louise is not confident that she will get the grades she needs at GCSE because she has missed so much time at school and she says she finds learning difficult.

The family live in a 2-bedroomed flat which is rented through a Housing Association. Lack of bedrooms means that Louise has a bedroom created by curtaining off the dining room. The family has historic debts which mean they cannot bid for bigger properties until the debt is cleared. Neither parent works; mother is a full time student and step father is unable to work and claiming DLA. The family have used the Food Bank recently.

Was anyone else involved, who and in what way?

Voluntary organisation provided a mentor to Louise to help her understand her anger and to find strategies to cope rather than allowing it to control her life.

AEP supported Louise to identify a career plan and options available to her, dependent on GCSE results.

Citizens Advice Bureau and Shelter helped Mum address the debts issue so that the family can look for more appropriate accommodation.

Winston's Wish helped Marie to talk about her grandmother's death and the impact this has had on her.