RESTORATIVE ESSENTIALS

Restorative Conversations

TIME REQUIRED

25 minutes minimum

FORMAT

Groups of three

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE LEVEL

Levels 2 and 3

OBJECTIVES

- To practise Restorative Conversations.
- To give feedback on one another's practice.



COMMENT: EXAMINING PRACTICE THROUGH STRUCTURED OBSERVATION

Using a framework to observe and analyse practice clarifies what you are observing and helps to ensure that the evidence you collect is relevant and useful. It is particularly valuable in collaborative work to establish shared understandings.

Using the framework to analyse ... evidence provides a common frame of reference with which to evaluate the adequacy and impact of practice.

"Using a Framework to Analyse Practice", n.d.

For its framework, this activity uses the steps of a restorative script to identify strengths and areas for development in participants' Restorative Conversations.

ACTIVITY

In groups of three, and using a restorative script (see Appendix 1), practise a Restorative Conversation. Two members of the group have the conversation while the third person acts as the observer.

The observer uses the worksheet **Observer's notes** to record their observations of the interaction.

At the end of the conversation, the participants first discuss what they noticed and what the experience was like for them. They consider questions such as:

- What went well?
- · Were any of the five steps missing?
- What questions and statements seemed the most effective?
- Were there opportunities to ask other questions or probe further?

The observer then adds their comments and reflections – for example, on factors such as pace, who spoke the most, tone of voice, and body language.

Swap roles and repeat the activity with another conversation.

WORKSHEET: OBSERVER'S NOTES

As the observer, watch the dialogue and how the staff member follows the steps of a Restorative Conversation. At the end of the conversation, allow the participants to discuss the experience, and then feed back to them two strengths you identified and one area for possible development.		
TELL THE STORY	Completed	

TELL THE STORY		Completed
Strengths	Area for development	
EXPLORE THE HARM		Completed
Strengths	Area for development	
REPAIR THE HARM		Completed
Strengths	Area for development	
REACH AN AGREEMENT		Completed
Strengths	Area for development	
PLAN FOLLOW-UP		Completed
Strengths	Area for development	