



PEER REFLECTION GUIDE

Reflecting as a group allows for sharing of different perspectives, consideration of assumptions and biases, can provide emotional containment and promote team cohesiveness. Using open, exploratory questions helps reflection on practice, supporting socially constructed learning via sharing of knowledge and experiences.

Working with risk

Practitioners must often balance the complexities of risk with that of ensuring people are able to live the lives they wish. Risk enablement, or positive risk-taking, is the process of balanced decision-making in relation to risk and rights.

Decisions around risk of harm are almost always made in a context of uncertainty, where there is limited information to inform decision-making and planning for the future. Working in contexts in which risk and uncertainty are frequently present will often cause professionals anxiety, which can in turn make conversations feel difficult and may affect reasoning skills and decision making.



Supporting resources:

- > **Risk enablement: Frontline Briefing**
- > **Risks rights values and ethics: Frontline briefing**
- > **Difficult conversations in social care: Frontline briefing**
- > **Human rights principles in practice: Webinar**
- > **Risks rights and the role of the state - Grounded professional judgement: Podcast**
- > **Safety Matters - safeguarding resources: Digital resource**
- > **Critical reflection and analysis - Module 3 Working with Uncertainty and Risk: Learning pathway**



Facilitator notes:

1. Identify a suitable time with your team/group for this learning opportunity.
2. Decide whether you are meeting virtually or in-person. If in-person, ensure you have the means to play a video or podcast from the Research in Practice website.
3. **Log in** to your Research in Practice account. If you don't have one you can set one up [here](#).
4. Ahead of time watch Risky Business – Working with Risk (see link below). The film has reflective questions built in. Think about whether you want to pause the film for reflections from the group or save these until the film has played through. The questions are included below too.
5. Play the following video to the group (10 mins):
 - [Risky Business - Working with Risk: Video \(10 mins\)](#)
6. Ask your team/group to reflect on the key messages from the film. Use the reflection prompts below to stimulate discussion:
 - Do you think you worry about risk more than the next person?
 - What ideas or feelings do you bring to conversations about risk?
 - Think about a time when you have taken a risk. How do you talk about risk? Do you talk about risks or worries?
 - What are the things you worry about as a practitioner?
 - What might happen if you just asked the person you are working with how they could keep safe?
7. Ask everybody to make sure they have a Research in Practice account set up and remind them they can record their reflections on the landing page for the videos, so they have a record for CPD purposes (and can export these if needed).
8. Share the preceding page with the links to the supporting resources with the team/group. Ask them to select a resource that is relevant someone they are supporting and to reflect on how they might put the learning into practice. Discuss this at your next supervision session.

