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**Falkirk Council** 

**Children's Services** 

## Supporting the anxiety (intervention)

Supporting approach	Making it successful	Resources
'Three blessings'		
This technique comes from Positive Psychology and	This exercise needs to be done each night for six weeks to be effective.	There is a sheet attached that
has been shown by research to increase happiness and wellbeing.	The person records three things that occur to them from that day that have been pleasant for them or have made them grateful.	can be used for recording.
It encourages individuals to refocus and notice positive	They do not have to be grand or momentous things but they do need to be very personal to the individual – special to them, regardless if they are special to other people.	
things rather than focus on negatives.	Some examples might be spending time with a friend, getting a favourite sandwich at lunch, getting home dry because it wasn't raining, having a game of football, getting an Instagram message from a friend etc.	
When people feel anxious, they are more susceptible to negative thinking and some people's thinking styles are more fixed.	Give the young person a jotter, stapled bundle of paper or set up something using ICT that they can record into each evening. This way, the child/young person and their parent and school staff can reflect back on what is emerging to be important to the young person.	
This should encourage more 'glass is half full' than 'glass is half empty' perspectives or when a lots	At first the young person may need some support helping them think through their day and not discounting things as they do not think they are momentous enough. It should get easier as the weeks go on. It is likely to help if a key adult is doing the exercise alongside the young person, recording their three blessings each evening too.	
of positive happen but a person focuses on one negative they experience.	Undertaking the exercise as part of a carefully considered bedtime routine could also be an assistance to settling for sleep if this is a difficulty for the child/young person.	
	The exercise can be continued on from the essential 6 weeks. However, it may be that a break from the exercise and returning to it if the person's mental health and wellbeing needs a boost could be more effective.	



