



DARGAVEL ELCC: THE ANNA FREUD CELEBRATORY FRAMEWORK

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“We have to stop assuming that every child is travelling down the same developmental pathway.”

Kerry Murphy²



Child

The child has the **lived experience expertise**. They will be developing an understanding of themselves over time, and should be heard, valued and supported in this understanding.



Key person

A key person offers **professional expertise** of the child. They have formal child development knowledge and use this to support and scaffold the child's learning experiences in their early childhood.

Parents

The parents offer a **personal expertise** of the child. They have an intimate understanding of their child across different contexts and will be with the child across their lifespan.

These types of expertise may also overlap and combine.

Key person 'voice'

- What do you love about the child?
- What do you hope the child will learn?
- What defined a good day for the child?
- What ways do you communicate with the child?

Child 'voice'

- What is the preferred mode of communication?
- How do they express their needs?
- What soothes them?
- How do you know they are engaged?
- What are their sensory and social preferences?

Parent 'voice'

- What do you love about the child?
- What do you hope the child will learn?
- What defined a good day for the child?
- What ways do you communicate with the child?

DARGAVEL EXPERIENCE

How have we used the Framework?

To gain a holistic picture of individual children.

- Key person 'voice' – not alone
 - Child 'voice' – listened to
- Parent voice – knowledge shared

Our Experience

Why use Anna Freud celebratory framework?

How did we use it?

What was the outcome?

- To hear child's voice
- Help understand changing behaviours
- Comparing between behaviours in the Centre and at home
- Shared understanding of new behaviours allowing us to better support and resource.

Why use Anna Freud celebratory framework?

- Helping understand changing behaviours.
- Distress
- Dis-regulation
- Strengths, interests and differences



How did we use it?

- Regulation and resources
- Plastic fruit from home allowed the child to regulate and allowed us to “push” without distress.



What was the outcome?

Benefits of using Anna Freud Celebratory Framework

- **Child voice – communication improved and less dis-regulation.**
- Parent/carer voice – joy of sharing how their child communicates at home and expressing the celebration of aspects of their child we didn't already know e.g. hand massaging; how proud they are of their gentle boy.
- Keyworker voice – able to utilise information and resources to better support the child and incorporate into child's plan.

Love

There is no changing my love for you, my child. Every day, I love you as much as the day you were born. It will always be this way, no matter what happens in your life. (Anon.)

