

REFLECTING ON AND ASSESSING SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

WHAT IS IT?

A tool for recording reflections on practice from a variety of viewpoints;

student, supervisor, service user, colleague

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Students respond to questions about what they have done;

supervisor, service user and colleague answer questions about their observations of the student's practice

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- Student and Practice Educator feedback on the tool is positive
- Encourages reflective writing
- The tool can be adapted to students in other professions
- The tool can be adapted to suit post registration workers for CPD

WHEN CAN IT BE USED?

- Formative and summative observations of practice
- To record progress in capability in relation to professional standards

WHY USE THIS TOOL?

- Evidence based
- Facilitates reflective writing
- Empowering, student led process
- Provides evidence and critical commentary on progress
- Incorporates action planning for student development

STUDENT COMMENTS;

'(There is) increased emphasis on our reflective practice, so it's very good for that.'

'It's probably a bit more that it's like a level playing field really; it's like everyone's opinions a bit really isn't it.'

PRACTICE ASSESSOR COMMENTS;

'When (students) were struggling (the ALPS tools) really put everything into perspective.'

'(It was) easier for service users to make a valid contribution to appraisal of work and training.'

MURPHY, A. and J.C. LAXTON. 2012.

Views of a Structured Assessment Tool for Observing Practice. Social Work Education: The International Journal. Taylor & Francis Online:

www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02615479.2012.745845

<http://www.alps-cetl.ac.uk>