

## Practice strategies to support collaborative engagement with infants, toddlers and their families

### Practice strategies for assessment

- 1 Prepare to work relationally**  
Inviting an infant-, toddler-, and family-focused style and pace of practice.
- 2 Nurture responsive parenting**  
Exploring ways to establish a safe, responsive and reflective relationship with the family.
- 3 Discover infants and toddlers' experiences**  
Discovering how attuned conversations help parents discover their children's unique strengths and needs.
- 4 Create connections through play**  
Developing ways to use play activities with families.
- 5 Develop shared understandings**  
Considering parents' discoveries about their child and their need for broader social or cultural support.

### Practice strategies for formulation

- 6 Understanding safety and relationship development**  
Exploring the strengths and responsiveness of the infant or toddler's relationships and how they contribute to the child's sense of safety across the past, present and future.
- 7 Exploring the barriers and protective factors within the child's village**  
Considering the family's support networks and how this 'village' can support the infant or toddler's wellbeing.
- 8 Responding to behaviour as communication**  
Promoting curiosity and responsivity to the needs and feelings that may be communicated through infants' and toddlers' behaviours.
- 9 Linking and meaning-making**  
Enabling families to link their child's experiences to the broader context of their relationships and lives. This supports discoveries that facilitate meaning-making, resilience and change.

### Practice strategies for implementation

- 10 Collaborating to meet infants and toddlers' needs**  
Considering how the 'village' of carers and professionals collaborate to meet infants and toddlers' needs.
- 11 Navigating change conversations with parents**  
Exploring parents' motivations for change and identifying steps they can take to build their confidence in responding to their child's mental health and wellbeing.
- 12 Facilitating relational repair**  
Assisting parents to sensitively attune to and repair their relationship with their child during times of tension.
- 13 Promoting change through everyday moments**  
Identifying ways parents can mindfully change everyday moments of caregiving and play to build infants and toddlers' confidence and sense of security.
- 14 Supporting infants and toddlers' resilience during times of transition**  
Exploring how to develop consistency during times of transition, to promote children's resilience and confidence during social interactions and other periods of separation.