

Foundation level Scenarios



Creating safer places. Together.

Case study scenarios Set A:

Scenario 1 – George

George is 7. He has been attending your church with his Grandma and Grandad, Mr and Mrs Brown, for several weeks. Mr and Mrs Brown are long standing members of the church. Mrs Brown volunteers in the Sunday school with the children. Last week, whilst Mrs Brown was on duty in the Sunday school, George and some other children were running around at the end of the session waiting for parents to collect them. George declared he was hot and pulled his jumper off. There were noticeable bruises on both arms. Mrs Brown ran over to him quickly and barked “Put your jumper back on!” A worker then saw Mrs Brown take George aside and tell him quietly that he must always keep his jumper on.

Scenario 2 – Noah and Jack

Noah and Jack are twins aged 2, the youngest of 5 siblings. The other children are aged 16, 9 and 5. As a family they are very well known to the church. Both parents, Jim and Sally, were actively serving in the church until last year when they separated. Sally says that Jim ‘just left and she has no idea where he has gone’. You have noticed a significant change in all of the children but a crèche worker has reported concerns about Noah and Jack in particular, stating that they have been coming to the crèche wearing dirty clothes, they are quite smelly and that during snack time, they are stuffing biscuits into their mouths as if they haven’t eaten for days, always asking for more when they have finished.

Scenario 3 - Grace

Grace is 15, she attends youth club on a Thursday night. She is a quiet and shy girl and only ever talks to one other girl whom she knows from school. During an adult-led group discussion, the topic is about Jesus' love. As the young people share, Grace starts to cry and runs out of the room. A worker goes after her and then Grace shares "How can Jesus love me? My family don't even love me. They say I'm ugly and fat and they laugh when my younger brother calls me stupid. They hate me. I hate myself. I wish I was never born." Grace goes on to tell you that she tried to take an overdose but when that didn't work, she started to cut her arms.

Scenario 4 - Tunde

Tunde is 10, he is an only child who lives with his mum. He comes to church sporadically some Sundays but every school holiday he always attends the church holiday club. You know that his mum does full-time shift-work at the local shop. Sometimes her shifts are in the evening, so she often asks her brother to come and babysit Tunde. At the last holiday club, you overheard Tunde talking to another boy of a similar age, showing off a brand-new mobile phone and saying that his uncle gave it to him. Near the end of the session, the other boy tells a worker that he saw lots of naked pictures of Tunde on the phone and that it makes him feel worried because he has always been told that it is not good to take naked pictures of ourselves because bad people might get hold of them.

Scenario 5 - Gemma

Gemma is 16 years of age. She has grown up in the church and her parents are both in the church band. Gemma is an only child and has always been popular amongst the other children and young people. She is hoping to become a young peer mentor but in one of the training sessions for this role, she discloses to you that she has become quite conscious of her body weight; she shares that she has tried different diets but is now following a website which appears to glamorize eating disorders. Gemma even boasts about being able to conceal going without food for days and that no-one has ever suspected anything.

Scenario 6 - Sam

Sam is 4 years old. At every session on a Sunday morning, he bounces around the room, crashing into things and pushing other children over. He doesn't respond to workers when they ask him to slow down or stop hurting other children and the whole session is very stressful for everyone. His dad, a single parent with 2 younger children, is always very apologetic about his son's behaviour and thanks you profusely each week for having him. He admits to you that he struggles with his behaviour at home too but that it's so tiring caring for 3 children on his own but he has had no choice since his partner passed away. So most of the time he just lets Sam do whatever he wants.

Case study scenarios Set B:

Scenario 7 - Bella

Bella attends the lunch club every Wednesday at church. She shares with you that her granddaughter has been helping her buy her groceries and pay some of the bills. Bella has problems remembering her PIN, so she has given it to her granddaughter to enable her to draw the cash out of her bank account. Initially Bella felt that the arrangement was working well. However, her granddaughter has continued to ask for money for other things. She has also started to take large sums of money out of her account without any receipts for what has been purchased. Bella states that she is a lot worse off than she used to be and is now unable to make ends meet. She says she can no longer afford to put the heating on in her flat and is unable to buy new clothes to see her through the winter.

Scenario 8 - Cath

Cath lives in a care home. A volunteer at church visits her every week. Cath has dementia and needs a high level of support and assistance. The volunteer has noticed that she is often left on her own, has little interaction or stimulation for long periods of time and is ignored when she calls for assistance. This results in her soiling her clothes because she needs physical assistance to use the toilet. She appears withdrawn and says very little when the volunteer visits.

Scenario 9 - Bill

Bill lives with his niece Jane. Jane brings Bill to church every now and again. His memory is affected by dementia, so he often asks the same question repeatedly, forgetting what he has been told. Jane is generally very caring towards Bill, but members of the congregation have recently observed her losing her temper with Bill and on one occasion, she was seen leaning into him and shouting into his face. A concerned member of the church has reported that they saw Jane grab Bill and push him back in to his seat during worship and that he banged his head on the back of the chair and was seen rubbing his head for the rest of the service.

Scenario 10 - Julie

Julie is a young adult aged 20. She has been living alone for the past 6 months, following the tragic death of her parents who passed away recently. She has some learning difficulties but lives independently with the support of a community support worker visiting on a regular basis. Her neighbour across the road, a good friend of the family, pops in, 2 or 3 times a week and has recently offered to cut the lawn and do odd jobs around the house. One day, when the neighbour was cutting the grass, she went outside to offer him a cup of tea. She found him in the shed reading a magazine; he invited her in and showed her the pictures which were of naked women. Julie told him she didn't like the pictures and didn't want to look at them, but he just laughed it off and made a joke about her looking like one of them. He then touched her bottom and said he had to go. Julie was left very upset and confused and is going to tell her support worker when they next visit.

Scenario 11 – Chris and Alex

Chris has always been an independent person, however after a motorbike accident, Chris has needed care and support from Alex. They have been married for 3 years. Because Chris is unable to work there has been a lot of tension in the home caused by financial strain and Alex now feels pressured to bring home more money so is working extra shifts and doing a second job. Chris recently shared at the weekly bible study group that Alex has been saying all sorts of horrible things like 'it would be so much easier if you weren't here'. Chris has heard Alex talking to friends about their relationship and has called Chris 'useless and good for nothing now'. Chris says she is afraid of what Alex might do but so far, it's the hurtful stuff that is said that is making her worry and the barrage of nasty words is increasing daily.

Scenario 12 - Dawn

Dawn lives in a residential care home. Staff need to use a hoist to transfer Dawn from her bed to her chair safely and comfortably. However, the staff have been ignoring the procedures and have been lifting her manually to save time. The method of lifting is quite rough, and it causes Dawn severe pain due to her widespread rheumatoid arthritis. When she asks the carers to transfer her using the hoist, which is written into her care plan, staff respond by stating that none of the staff like to use the hoist because it slows them down too much and they claim to have not been trained properly in its use.

Scenario 13 - Derrek

Derrek has been admitted to a hospital for planned treatment. He is devoutly religious and needs to observe strict religious practices daily. These practices include not eating a certain type of meat. This issue was discussed with staff prior to his admission and he and his family were under the impression that his needs would be catered for. Following admission Derrek was very upset when he was offered meat he can't eat as part of his meal without any alternative. This has happened on more than one occasion and his complaints about it have been ignored by staff and he is therefore choosing to skip meals now.

Scenario 14 - Temi

Temi left her home in Uganda to come to the UK to work as a nanny. She was promised that she would be given help with her English language skills. However, since being here she has been forced to work long hours doing cleaning and cooking, as well as being asked to look after the children during the day and a lot of evenings and weekends. She has very little free time and the family have stopped paying her. Temi has had little help with her language skills. She has been told that she should be grateful to have a roof over her head and that if she complains she will be sent back home. Temi is too scared to tell anyone and has grown to like the children she is looking after. Apart from doing the school run each day, she is now prevented from leaving the house and she thinks that her visa may have expired, so worries she is now in the UK illegally.