

research in practice



Professional curiosity

Curiosity is needed to make connections to enable greater understanding and to question and challenge information received (Thacker, 2020).

Remaining curious and applying curiosity to practice is 'difficult and skilled work' (Dickens et al., 2023, p. 1).

Practitioners require support from organisations and colleagues, to nurture the communication skills and the courage needed to remain curious (Dickens et al., 2023).



Read

Longer read: [Professional curiosity in safeguarding adults: Strategic Briefing \(2020\)](#)

Longer read: [Difficult conversations in social care: Frontline Briefing \(2023\)](#)



Tools

[Good Assessment: Practitioners' Handbook \(2022\)](#)

[Supporting practitioner wellbeing: Practice Guide \(2022\)](#)

[Reflective Supervision: Learning Hub \(2025\)](#) [Supporting critical analysis](#)

[Good decision-making in adult social care: Learning Hub \(2025\)](#)

[Critical reflection and analysis: Learning Pathway \(2025\)](#)



Watch

14 minutes: [Strengths-based practice: Film \(2020\)](#)

5 minutes: [Dialogic practice: Garavan's six steps \(2023\)](#)



Listen

27 minutes: [What is professional curiosity?: Podcast \(2024\)](#)

30 minutes: [Organisational resilience: Podcast \(2024\)](#)



Reflect

Reflect on and record your CPD using the button on each resource page. You can also bookmark and share resources with colleagues. Log and review your reflections in '[Your CPD](#)'.

For more resources, explore the [Research in Practice website](#) using the search function.

References:

Dickens, J., Cook, L., Cossar, J., Okpokiri, C., Taylor, J., & Garstang, J. (2023). Re-envisioning professional curiosity and challenge: messages for child protection practice from reviews of serious cases in England. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 135, 108511.

Thacker H, Anka A & Penhale B. (2020). *Professional curiosity in safeguarding adults: Strategic Briefing*. Dartington Hall Trust: Research in Practice.