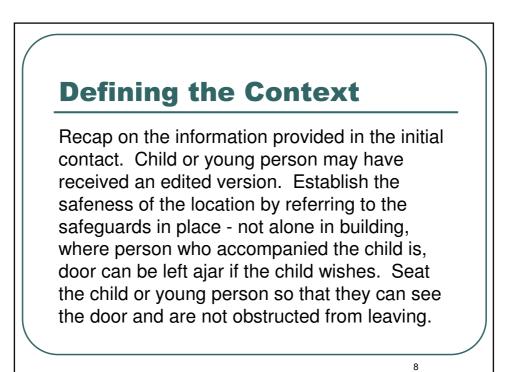


Set the child or young person at ease

Begin on a topic which is not threatening and in which you might have a common interest. Reveal something of yourself.

<u>**Don't**</u> be patronising - feigning an interest in a subject which is completely false.

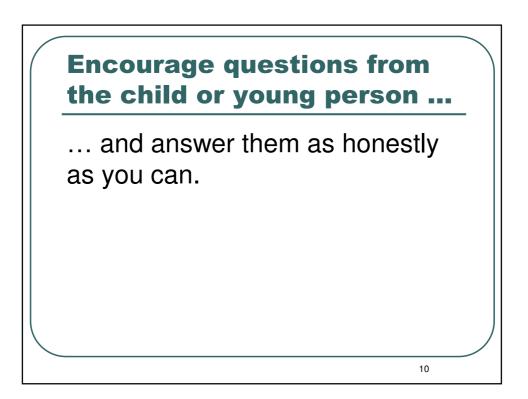
7

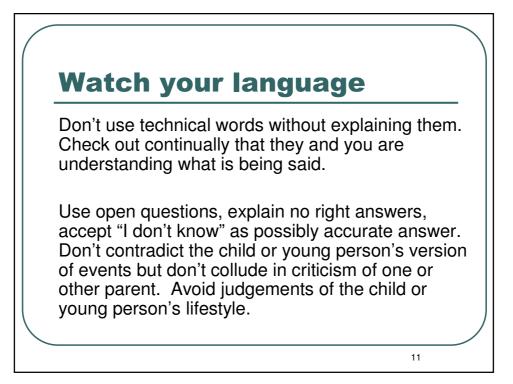


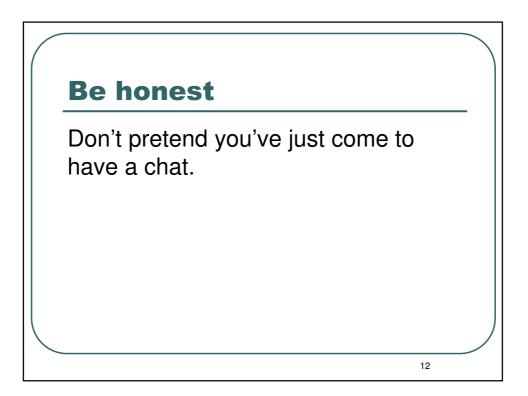
Negotiate consent

Don't presume that child or young person's presence represents consent. Explain their participation is voluntary, they are not being forced to talk and that conclusions will not be inferred from their reticence.

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Explain what happens next

Always let child or young person know what you will do next and if you can what will be the next stage in the process. Information about timing should be provided for children aged 9/10 and older.

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