



Age Assessment Resources

Free resources for practitioners
undertaking age assessments



Age Assessment Resources

These resources have been developed by social workers undertaking age assessments. They are designed to be used as tools to support clients through the process, as well as provide opportunities to gather information in more creative ways.

ISWS are not responsible for the inappropriate use of these tools, and practitioners are reminded to use their discretion when deciding which, if any, tools to use as part of their practice.



Topic Cards

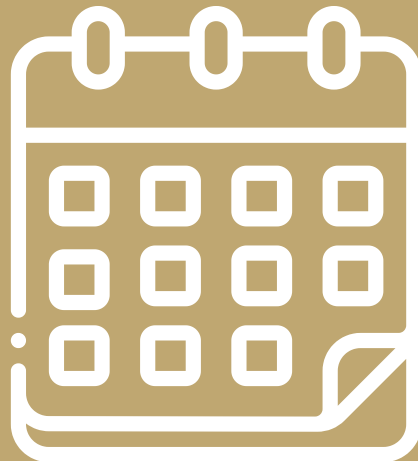
A free pack that you can print and laminate (if you wish) to use during your age assessments to assist you with your enquiries

How to Use the Topic Cards:

- Print out the individual cards (we recommend using A3 size for each card)
- Explain that each card represents a different topic that will be covered over the course of the interviews
- Use the interpreter to translate the words but highlight the images so the person can recall the information more easily
- Encourage the client to choose the order of the subjects you will cover
- Once a subject area is completed, turn over the card as a visual representation that this topic is finished for now
- This will allow the client oversight of how much they have completed of the assessment/how much they have left



Health



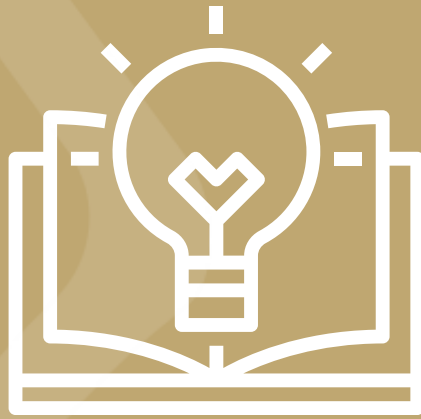
Calendar



Family



Journey



Education



Date of birth



Social Media



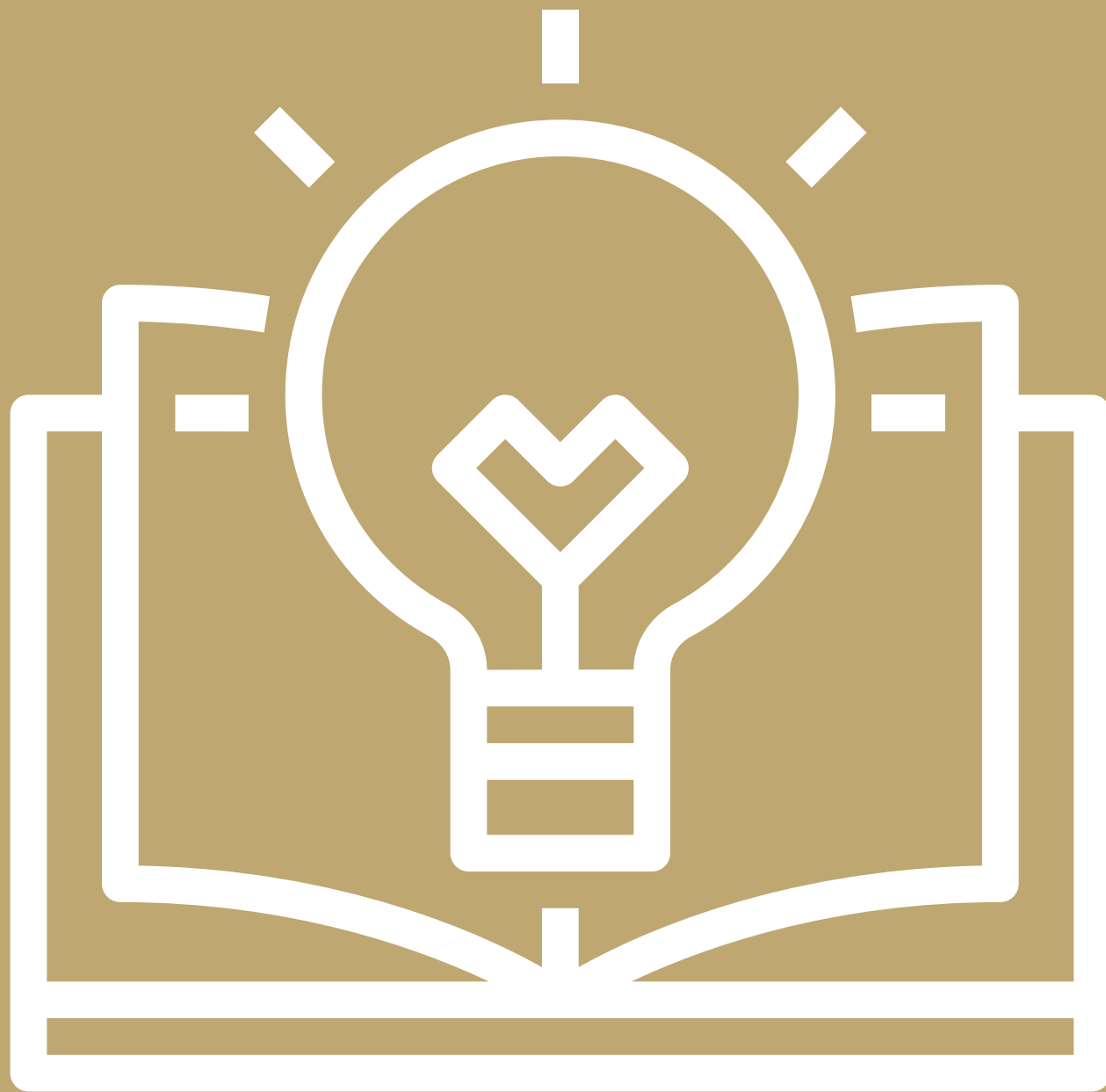
Independence
Skills



Health



Family



Education



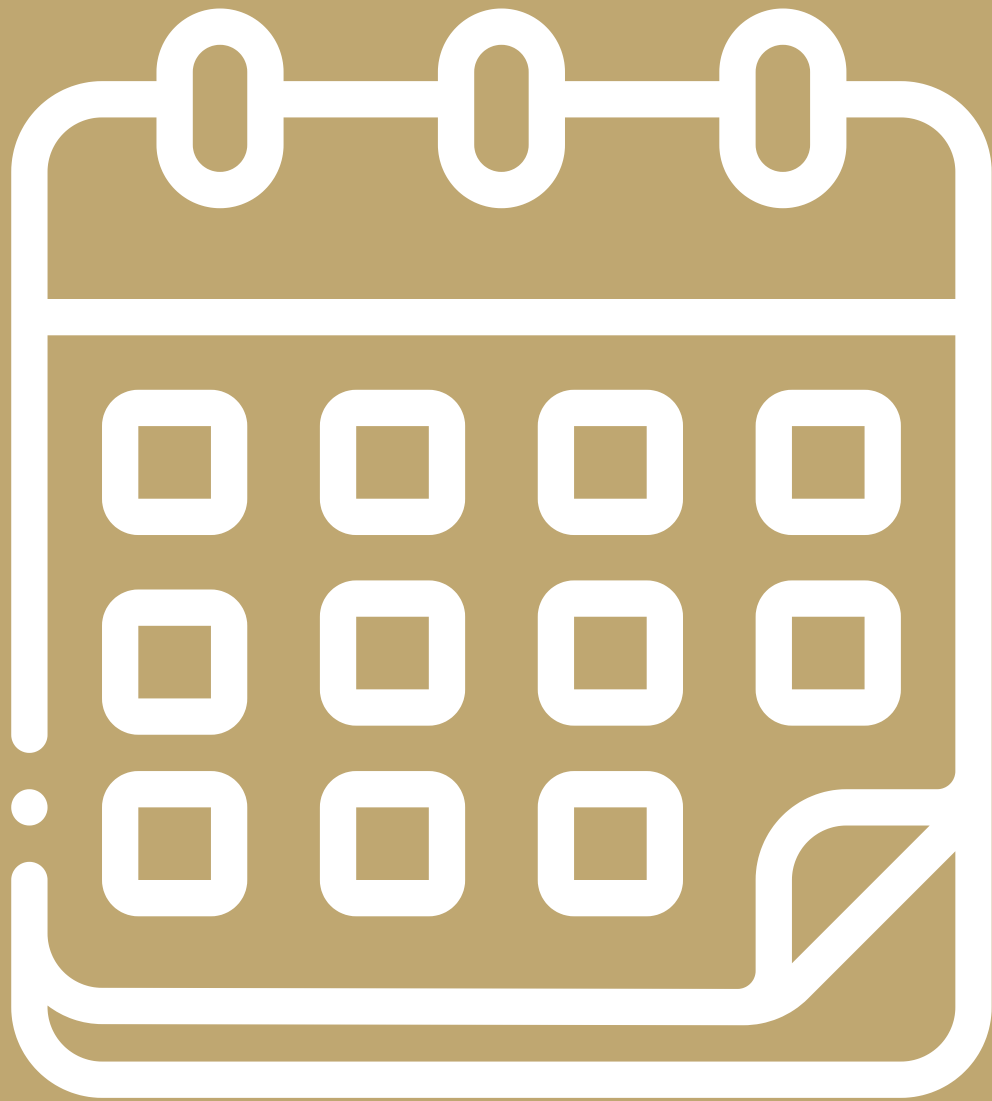
Journey





Independence Skills





Calendar





Date of birth





Social Media



Emotion Scale

A free scale that you can print and laminate (if you wish) to use during your age assessments to assist you with your enquiries

How to Use the Emotion Scale

- Print out the scale (we recommend using A4 for this one)
- There are two approaches to using this tool
 1. To gauge the client's emotional state at any point during the assessment
 2. To obtain detail about the clients emotional state historically when recalling past experiences
- Describe what each of the colours and images symbolise
 - Red** = I feel angry, really scared, heart rate is really fast
 - Yellow** = My heart rate is getting faster, I am feeling excited or worried about something, not relaxed but feeling heightened
 - Green** = i feel ok, i feel relaxed and calm
 - Blue** = I feel low, tired, depressed, sad, teary

EMOTION SCALE





Confidence Cards

Young people are asked to provide lots of information during their age assessment, which can sometimes be presented as “fact” without 100% certainty. The purpose of these cards is to explore how confident young people are when providing individual pieces of evidence so we can ensure that evidence is afforded the appropriate weighting.

How to Use the Emotion Scale

- Print out the cards
- Explain what each card means and get young people to explain this back to you.
- When facts/information is provided, ask the young person how confident they are by asking them to select the most appropriate card.

CONFIDENCE CARDS



I think this is
true



I know this is
100% true



Someone told
me this



I've worked
this out myself



Blank Timeline

How to Use Timelines in Your Age Assessment

- We've provided a blank timeline as an example to use in your age assessment
- We recommend using the largest piece of paper you can find to complete the timeline
- On one side of the paper, plot the young person's social and family history UP TO the point they leave their home country
- On the other side, plot the migration journey from the point of leaving home, to the point of arriving into Local Authority care
- Use post it notes, to mark significant details (i.e. countries passed through)
- Use images to record what they've told you (i.e. a car to symbolise a car journey, footsteps for walking, waves for sea crossing etc)
- Completing the timeline alongside the client will allow you to gather more information



Blank Timeline

How to Use Timelines in Your Age Assessment Cont...

- Use the timeline to highlight gaps in the timeline (and on the page) and demonstrate why you need more information
- Use maps to plot migration journeys
- Use different pens for different information (i.e. information from different sources, change colour for each country passed through etc)
- The timeline is an interactive tool designed to break down more formal Q&A processes
- The more interactive you make it, the more likely it is you will get additional detail

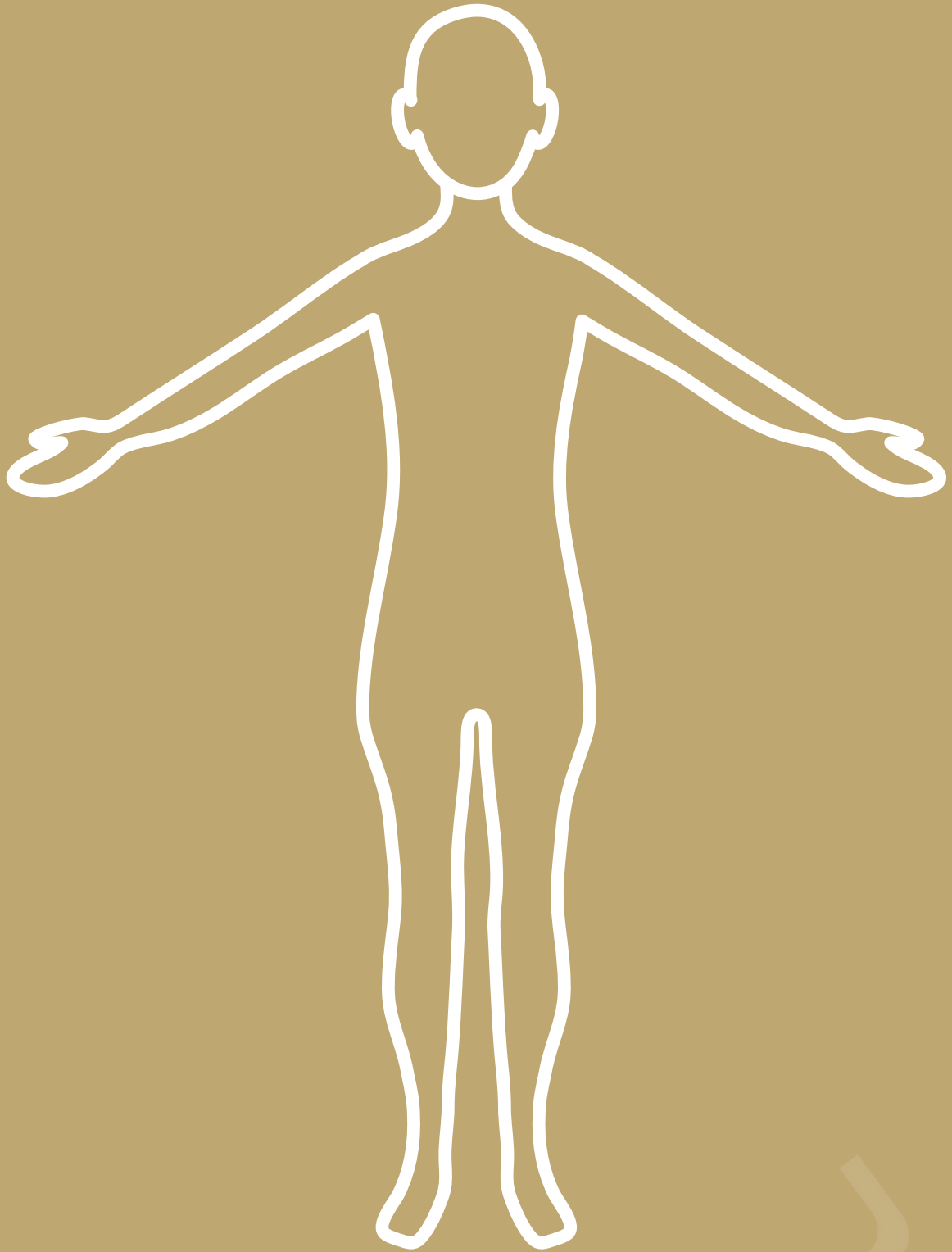


Body Map

How to Use the Body Map Tool

- The blank body map can be used as a conversation tool to gather information about the following:
- Health ailments (i.e. do you have pain anywhere on your body?)
- Scars/injuries that may have not been mentioned
- Tattoos

Body Map





If you've found these resources useful or have any other comments/suggestions to make, please do get in touch on our social media pages



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