

FRAMING IDEAS FOR Impactful Partnership

Diverse impacts
Small things with big effects
Mind-expanding
Intimate outsiders
Evolving art

Revision

Impactful partnership was found to have five characteristics. These are ways of describing what impactful partnership work is like. They involve embracing the unfamiliar and new, balancing consistency with agility, addressing the here and now for families, careful management of endings, and working at parents' level.

For more information on the key concepts and findings relating to this worksheet see: [creating-better-futures.org/](https://www.creating-better-futures.org/)

To claim a certificate on completed worksheets see: <https://www.creating-better-futures.org/claim-your-certificate/>

1. Key concepts – check your understanding

In your own words, explain what each of the characteristics means, and make connections to the framing ideas for impactful partnership where you can:

WF Working at the frontier:

FS Flexible stability:

GG Grounded and grounding:

OE Open-ended but not unending:

A Authenticity – working as people:

2. Linking ideas to practice

Now you have the concepts in mind, the next step is to connect them to your practice:

Concept	How it relates to my practice
Working at the frontier	
Flexible stability	
Grounded and grounding	
Open-ended but not unending	
Authenticity – working as people	

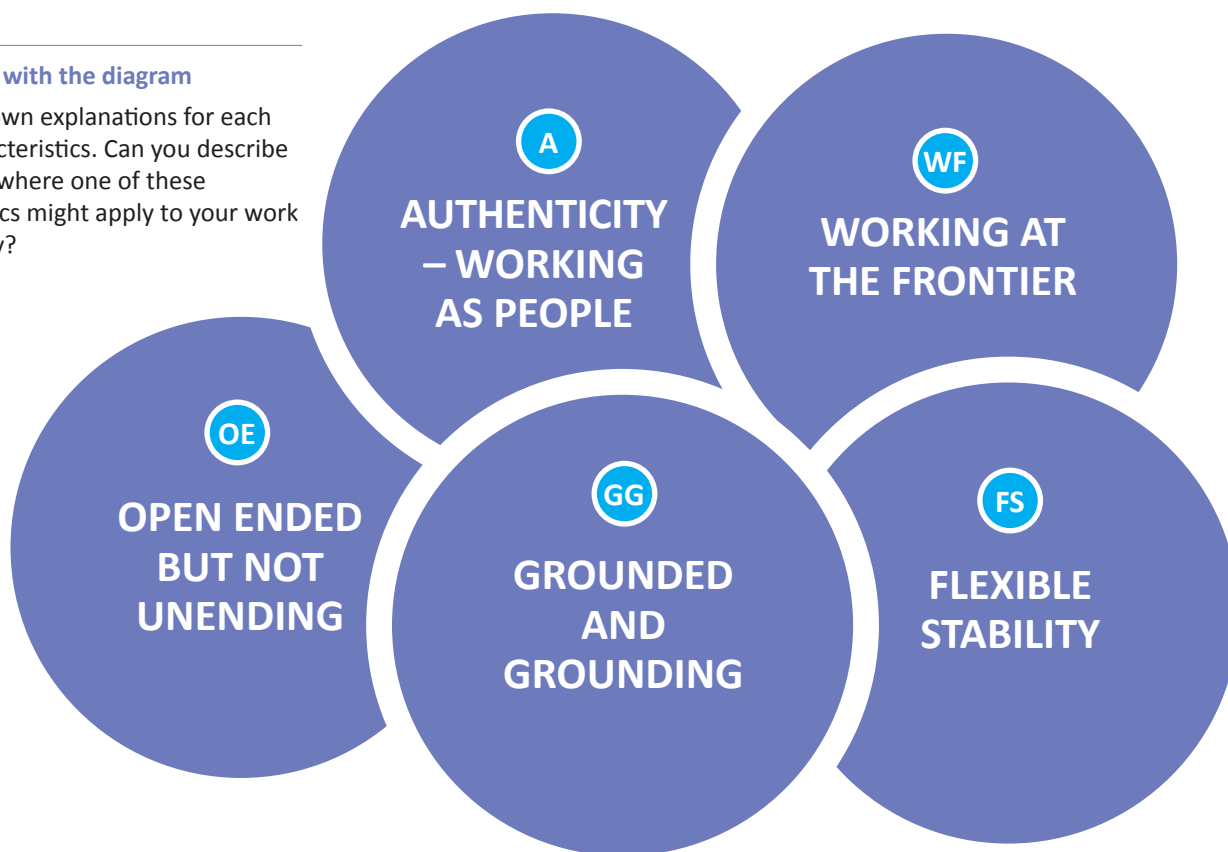
3. Understanding the diagram

The five characteristics of impactful partnership are shown as distinct but overlapping. This is meant to show that they each require particular reflection and action, but that they are in a messy relationship with one another.

If the diagram doesn't make sense to you, draw something that captures the characteristics of impactful partnership on a separate sheet.

4. Working with the diagram

Write your own explanations for each of the characteristics. Can you describe an example where one of these characteristics might apply to your work with a family?



5. Enhancing your practice

On a separate sheet:

1. Choose two of the *Questions for reflective practice* (see right) and write your answer on a separate piece of paper. If they don't quite work you can adapt them.
2. Look at the *Questions to adapt and ask with parents* (see right). Think of a family you are working with or have recently finished working with. Choose two questions you think you could use or adapt to ask the parents, and explain why these might be important, and what you think they might say in response.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTIVE PRACTICE	What have I done that places our work at the frontier?
	In what ways have I been stable and flexible?
	What is the ground that we are on together?
	What have I done to work with these parents as people, and to be a person rather than just a role to them?
	What from my past work could help me go further into frontier territory with this family?
	Based on my experience, what forms of stability are likely to be most important to this family?
	What benefits might there be if I were agile and responsive in different ways?
	What could I do to help the family feel that the door of help isn't going to close suddenly on them?
	What about our work has been unfamiliar or new to you?
	What have you come to expect from me?
QUESTIONS TO ADAPT AND ASK WITH PARENTS	What has helped you focus on the here and now?
	What else might it be good for me to know about things that matter to you?
	What things do you want us to work on that we haven't really covered yet?
	As we move forward, what about our relationship needs to stay the same? ...
	... and from your point of view, what might need to change about the way I work with you?
	Thinking ahead a few (weeks/months/years), what help will be important to you?