



**INFORMING
FUTURES**

1625 Independent People

DEVELOPMENTAL MAPPING GROUP EXERCISE

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This resource is part of the Informing Futures toolkit. It was co-created with young people, and reflects what they felt practitioners most needed to understand in order to work successfully with care and custody experienced young people.

For more information or queries on any of the topics covered in this toolkit, or to find out about training and consultancy we can offer please contact enquiries@1625ip.co.uk.

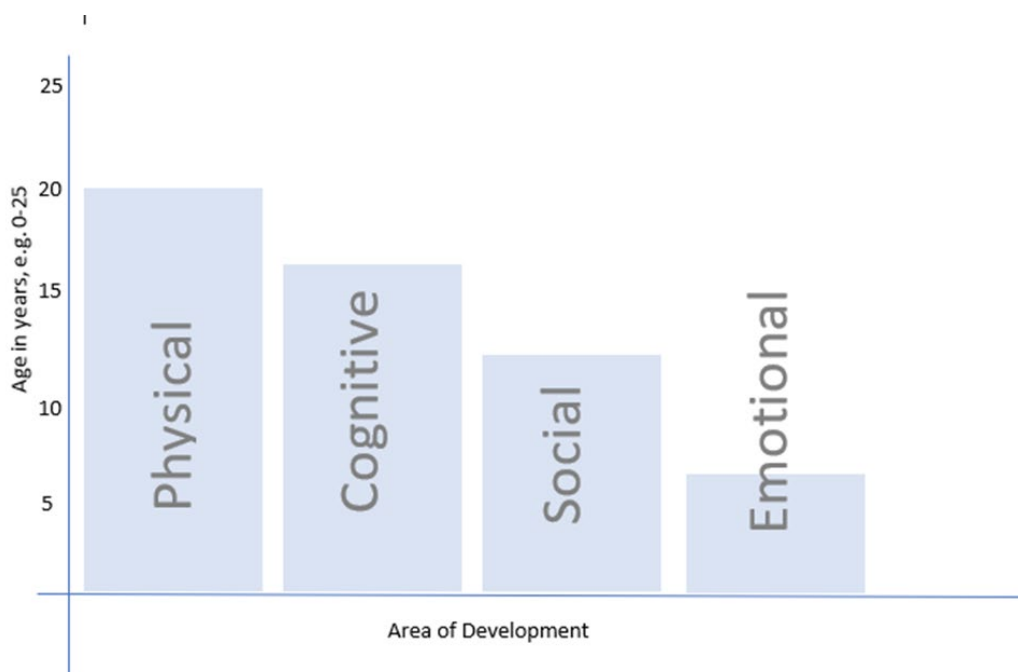
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DEVELOPMENTAL MAPPING*

GROUP EXERCISE



In your group, identify a young person you are going to use in this exercise. If there is not a young person who is known to the whole group, please use one of the profiles provided.

Taking each area of development in turn, discuss what developmental age you think this person is. You'll find some pointers below to help your discussions:

Physical

- What kind of build are they? Do they seem small or tall for their age?
- How do they hold themselves?
- How do they dress/present themselves?
- Just looking solely at their physical appearance, how old do they look?

Cognitive (thinking & reasoning)

- To what extent are they able to connect actions and consequences?
- To what extent are they able to plan or think about the future?
- How good are their problem-solving skills?

- Do you have to simplify your language or slow down your speech in order for them to follow it?

Social

- What ages are the people they like to spend time with?
- How important are peer opinions to them?
- How comfortable are they talking to new people?
- Can they 'hold their own' in social situations, as you'd expect for someone their age?

Emotional

- How well can they recognise and/or name emotions?
- Do they express emotion, as you'd expect for someone of their age?
- Are they able to demonstrate empathy and/or take account of what others are feelings?
- How much control do they have over their emotional responses?

Try and reach consensus in each area if you can.

Mark your answers on the graph when you have agreed.

Compare the **developmental ages** you have agreed with the **actual age** of this person.

Consider:

- How different are they in each area?
- Does this change your expectations of this young person's behaviour?
- What might you do differently in supporting them with this knowledge?