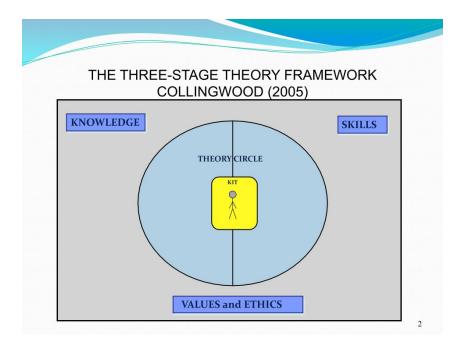


The Theory Circle

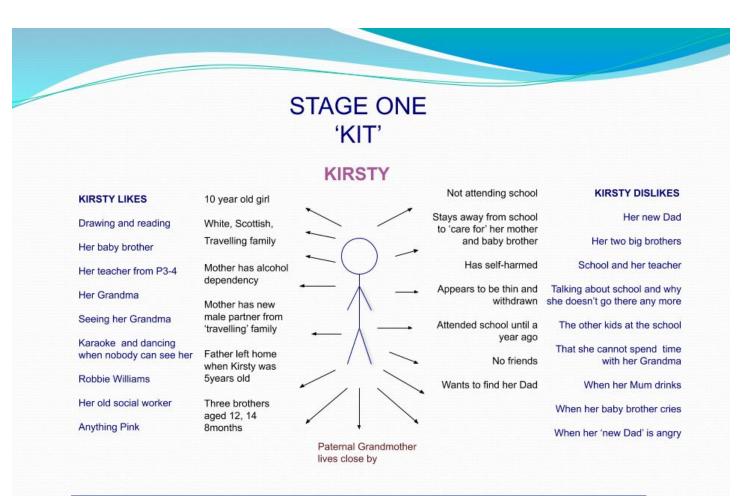
This model was created by Pat Collingwood (2008) and is a great way of thinking about what information you know about the person you are working with, and hence, what further information you may need to gather. And then linking theory to practice, both in terms of understanding the theory that informs you about the service user and also the theory that underpins your intervention.

Think of a service user, and complete each section of the 3 stage framework below:





Look at this example of Stage One:



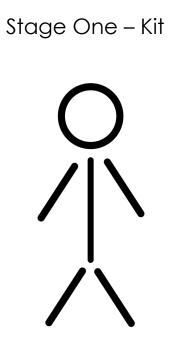
 Referral:
 From the reporter to the Children's Panel requesting a 'Social Background Report of the Children's Panel requesting a 'Social Background Report of the Children and Families Assessment Team

 Agency Setting:
 Social Work Department Children and Families Assessment Team

4



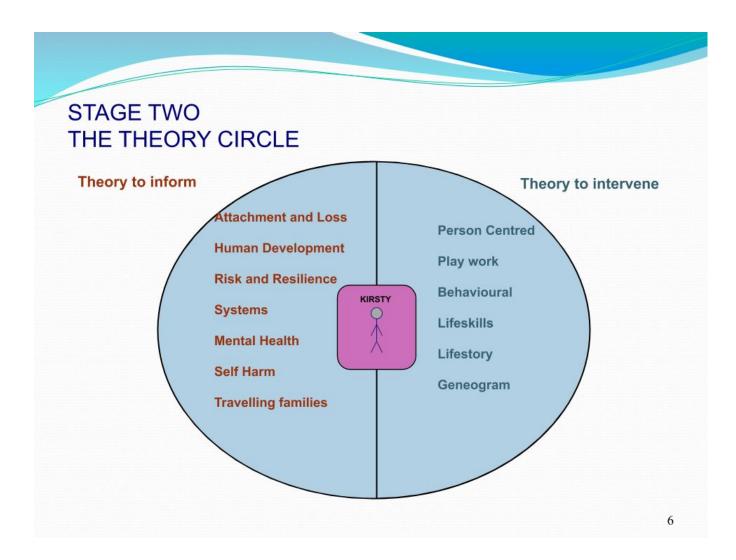
Then complete the following about the person you are working with:



Reason for social work intervention:

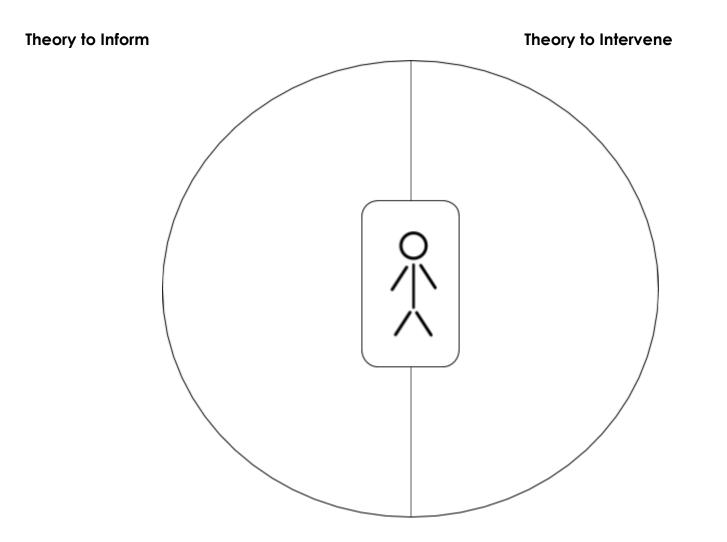


Look at this example of Stage Two:



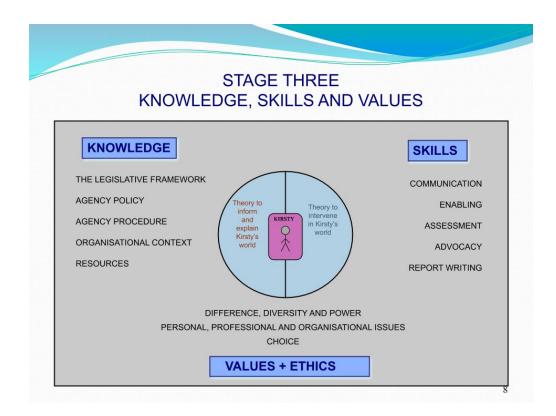


Then complete the Stage Two - Theory Circle - about the person you are working with:





Now look at Stage Three - Knowledge, Skills and Values - and complete this for your work with the service user identified in stage one and two.



Pat Collingwood , Ruth Emond & Rona Woodward (2008) The Theory Circle: A Tool for Learning and for Practice, Social Work Education, 27:1, 70-83