

**"I don't know what you're talking about; there is nothing wrong."**

**"My priority is to make sure you are safe. If nothing is wrong, that's great, but I would like us to discuss what I am worried about so that I can be sure."**

**How does this approach demonstrate professional curiosity?**



**GATESHEAD  
safeguarding  
children  
partnership**



**Gateshead  
Safeguarding Adults  
Board**



**"I don't know what you're talking about; there is nothing wrong."**

**"My priority is to make sure you are safe. If nothing is wrong, that's great, but I would like us to discuss what I am worried about so that I can be sure."**

**It acknowledges the individual's perception without accepting things at face value. It provides opportunities for in-depth discussion and exploration of the things you are worried about.**



**"This is just how we do things in our family/community. It is nothing to worry about."**

**"I am not here to judge traditions or practices, but I need to make sure that nothing is causing harm or putting anyone at risk. Can you tell me more about how this works?"**

**How does this approach demonstrate professional curiosity?**



**"This is just how we do things in our family/community. It is nothing to worry about."**

**"I am not here to judge traditions or practices, but I need to make sure that nothing is causing harm or putting anyone at risk. Can you tell me more about how this works?"**

**It facilitates exploration of practices/traditions that may increase risk of harm. It develops our understanding of family dynamics and the lived experiences of those we are concerned about; it enables us to constructively challenge whilst being culturally sensitive.**



**"How dare you  
accuse me of  
that! This is none  
of your business."**

**"I understand that this  
conversation might make you  
uncomfortable, but I have  
noticed/heard...  
I am not accusing you, but it would  
be helpful to understand things  
from your point of view, so that we  
can work together to keep  
you/your family safe."**

**How does this  
approach  
demonstrate  
professional  
curiosity?**



GATESHEAD  
safeguarding  
children  
partnership



Gateshead  
Safeguarding Adults  
Board



**"How dare you  
accuse me of  
that! This is none  
of your business."**

**"I understand that this  
conversation might make you  
uncomfortable, but I have  
noticed/heard...  
I am not accusing you, but it would  
be helpful to understand things  
from your point of view, so that we  
can work together to keep  
you/your family safe."**

**It balances empathy with  
responsibility; it acknowledges  
the individual's discomfort whilst  
maintaining clarity ("I have  
noticed/heard"). It diffuses  
confrontation, and enables us to  
make enquiries without also  
making assumptions.**



**"It isn't a big deal.  
You are being too  
sensitive/blowing  
things out of  
proportion."**

**"I understand that this may not  
seem a big deal to you, and I am  
not here to judge. Part of my role  
is to explore things that could  
easily be missed, so could you  
help me to understand the full  
picture?"**

**How does this  
approach  
demonstrate  
professional  
curiosity?**



**"It isn't a big deal. You are being too sensitive/blowing things out of proportion."**

**"I understand that this may not seem a big deal to you, and I am not here to judge. Part of my role is to explore things that could easily be missed, so could you help me to understand the full picture?"**

**It balances transparency with opportunities to build relationships and understand other perspectives, which minimises the risk of assumptions and unconscious bias.**



**"It's not that bad. Other people have it worse - maybe you should focus on them."**

**"I understand your point, and I agree that lots of people face extremely difficult circumstances. However, your experiences are also valid and can be challenging in their own way."**

**How does this approach demonstrate professional curiosity?**



GATESHEAD  
safeguarding  
children  
partnership



Gateshead  
Safeguarding Adults  
Board



**"It's not that bad. Other people have it worse - maybe you should focus on them."**

**"I understand your point, and I agree that lots of people face extremely difficult circumstances. However, your experiences are also valid and can be challenging in their own way."**

**It maintains a respectful tone whilst constructively challenging the idea that others deserve help and support more than others. It demonstrates patience and understanding, which is the cornerstone of trauma-informed practice.**



GATESHEAD  
safeguarding  
children  
partnership



Gateshead  
Safeguarding Adults  
Board



**"I don't need to explain myself to you."**

**"I am not here to judge, but I am here to make sure that everyone is receiving the right support. Your views are important so that we can improve things for you/your family."**

**How does this approach demonstrate professional curiosity?**



**"I don't need to explain myself to you."**

**"I am not here to judge, but I am here to make sure that everyone is receiving the right support. Your views are important so that we can improve things for you/your family."**

**It establishes that your purpose is rooted in care and responsibility: it validates the other person's perspective whilst demonstrating tenacity and perseverance, which is key to building relationships.**

