

APPENDIX

Author(s): Amy McEwan-Strand and Marit Skivenes

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Table A: Weighing of the child's opinion displayed by three age categories

<i>Children aged 4-6 years. N=112</i>				
Opinion is mentioned by the board? N=112.	Yes	12	11 %	
	No	100	89 %	
Opinion is relied upon by the board? N=12	Yes- all	7	58 %	
		<i>Yes - unspecified</i>	7	58 %
		<i>Yes - a lot</i>	0	0 %
		<i>Yes- some</i>	0	0%
	Not mentioned	5	42 %	
No	0	0 %		
<i>Children aged 7-11 years. N= 44</i>				
Opinion is mentioned by the board? N=44	Yes	40	91 %	
	No	4	9 %	
Opinion is relied upon by the board? N=40	Yes - all	27	68 %	
		<i>Yes - unspecified</i>	16	40 %
		<i>Yes - a lot</i>	6	15 %
		<i>Yes - some</i>	5	13 %
	Not mentioned	4	10 %	
	No	9	23 %	
<i>Children above age 12 years. N=23</i>				
Opinion is mentioned by the board? N=23	Yes	21	91 %	
	No	2	9 %	
Opinion is relied upon by the board? N=21	Yes - all	19	90 %	
		<i>Yes - unspecified</i>	11	52 %
		<i>Yes - a lot</i>	8	38 %
		<i>Yes - some</i>	0	0%
	Not mentioned	2	10 %	
No	0	0 %		

Table B: Factors of importance when considering the child's opinion and its weight. N=73 children

Weight assigned to the child's opinion N= number of children	Factors the board relies upon to assess the capacity of the child (in parenthesis number of children in which a factor is mentioned at least once).
Yes N= 53 (73%)	Child's age (21)
	Child's understanding (19)
	Clarity of opinion/reflection (13)
	Opinion held over time (10)
	Child's maturity (6)
	Opinion is coherent/well thought out (6)
	Sufficient information (4)
	Whether opinion is formed under pressure (3)
	Features of the child/child's constitution (2)
	Opinion is consistent with what is in the child's best interests (1)
<i>Yes - unspecified how much weight N= 34 (47%)</i>	<i>Child's understanding (12)</i>
	<i>Child's age (11)</i>
	<i>Clarity of opinion/reflection (7)</i>
	<i>Child's maturity (6)</i>
	<i>Sufficient information (4)</i>
	<i>Opinion held over time (4)</i>
	<i>Whether opinion is formed under pressure (2)</i>
	<i>Opinion is coherent/well thought out (2)</i>
	<i>Features of the child/child's constitution (2)</i>
	<i>Opinion is consistent with what is in the child's best interests (1)</i>
<i>Yes - a lot of weight N= 14 (19%)</i>	<i>Clarity of opinion/reflection (6)</i>
	<i>Opinion held over time (6)</i>
	<i>Child's understanding (6)</i>
	<i>Child's age (5)</i>
	<i>Opinion is coherent/well thought out (3)</i>
	<i>Whether opinion without pressure (1)</i>
<i>Yes - some weight N= 5 (7%)</i>	<i>Child's age (5)</i>
	<i>Child's understanding (1)</i>
	<i>Opinion is coherent/well thought out (1)</i>
Not mentioned 11 (15%)	Child's understanding (2)
	Opinion held over time (1)
No 9 (12%)	Child's understanding (8)
	Child's age (3)
	Child's maturity (1)
	Clarity of opinion/reflection (1)
	Whether opinion is formed under pressure (1)