OSCE checklist for child health nursing: teen privacy

OSCE checklist for child health nursing: an adolescent confidentiality conversation explains privacy and its limits before discussing sensitive health concerns. Use this original practice checklist with your course guidance and supervised skills teaching.

Numbered practice steps

1. Introduce yourself and confirm the young person’s identity and communication needs. Offer a safe private conversation, explain confidentiality and its legal limits, then seek agreement to discuss the concern. Use hand hygiene before contact or equipment use.
2. Confirm how the young person wants to be addressed and whether they would like time without a caregiver present. Explain the service approach to private conversations.
3. Check understanding and ability to make the relevant decision under local law and policy. Age alone must not be your only assessment of understanding.
4. Explain what will stay private and when information may need to be shared for safety or legal reasons. Avoid promising absolute secrecy.
5. Listen to the concern without judgement, ask about pressure or harm and consider safeguarding. Seek senior advice if consent or information sharing is uncertain.
6. Agree the plan and a safe method for contact, including messages or letters that others might see. Record the decision, reasoning and information shared.
7. Close by checking understanding, ensuring comfort and cleaning your hands and equipment as appropriate. Document findings and hand over any unresolved safety concern to the supervising practitioner.

Common omissions

Automatically telling a parent everything can prevent access to care. Automatically excluding a supportive parent may also be unhelpful. Check the young person’s wishes, safety and the decision-specific legal framework.

Try an original practice task

Use a fictional sensitive health concern. Practise explaining confidentiality before asking details, then check whether a text reminder would be safe for the young person to receive.

These steps support learning, rather than authorising independent treatment. Follow your school's task and local policy; ask for help when a decision exceeds your competence.

Related nursing practice

Return to child health nursing OSCE practice or use the full checklist directory.

Common questions

Is this a school marking sheet?

No. This is an original learning checklist. Your school sets the task and assessment criteria.

Can I print this checklist?

Yes. Use the PDF download on this page for practice.

Sources

- NMC: The Code
- NICE NG204: babies, children and young people experience of healthcare

Checked 2026-11-13. Fees and rules change, so confirm them with the regulator before you book.