Student Assistance Program

Initial Parent Conversation Checklist

Introduce yourself as a SAP team member
Ask if it is a good time for the parent/guardian to talk
Briefly describe SAP and confidentiality
Provide positives/strengths of the student and ask the parent for additional
strengths
Use referral and/or behavior checklist and/or other school data to communicate the
concern/referral reason
Express interest in helping the student
Ask the parent/guardian open-ended questions about what they are observing at
home (ask follow-up questions as needed) (OARS)
Affirm parent/guardian views and concerns whenever possible (OARS)
Reflect statements made and restate thoughts (OARS)
Make summarizing statements back to the parent/ guardian about the context of the
conversation (OARS)
Discuss written SAP permission and explain the process for returning the
signature/form
Ask the best way to communicate with parent/guardian in the future
Explain how the parent/guardian can reach you if any questions or concerns arise
Thank the parent/guardian for their time