Case study five:
Tool 3 – Risk enablement

Risk enablement is a key skill for practitioners in promoting wellbeing and achieving outcomes.

As an approach, risk enablement identifies a link between risk and enablement. Risk enablement recognises that taking carefully considered risks can enable individuals and help improve their wellbeing.

Positive risk-taking is a way of working with risk that promotes enablement. It is important to remember that the 'positive' in positive risk-taking refers to the outcome not the risk.

Identifying risk	Positive risk-taking and *Making Safeguarding Personal*	Positive risk-taking in the wider context	Legislation and guidance
Key features of how risk is defined in positive risk-taking.	These shared features illustrate how positive risk-taking and *Making Safeguarding Personal* complement one another.	Examples of key areas of work that support a positive risk-taking approach.	Key areas of law and guidance in respect of risk enablement.

Identifying risk

> Integral to achieving many common outcomes – can be minimised, but not eliminated.
> Specific to the circumstances of the individual.
> Dynamic and, therefore, subject to change.
> Intrinsically linked to enablement.

Positive risk-taking and *Making Safeguarding Personal*

> The approach to risk is rights-based.
> People using services are kept well-informed.
> Communication is adapted to individuals.
> The wishes of people using services are at the heart of decisions.
> The strengths of the individual are identified.
> Decisions are balanced.
> Reasoning is demonstrable.
> Decisions are regularly reviewed.
> Practitioners are reflective.
> Practitioners are legally literate.

Positive risk-taking in the wider context

> Identifying the strengths of the individual.
> Utilising assets in the community.
> Understanding the role of independent advocates.
> Working collaboratively with other agencies.

Legislation and guidance

> The *Care Act 2014*
> *Making Safeguarding Personal*
> *Mental Capacity Act 2005*
> *Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)*
> *Human Rights Act 1998*
> *European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR)*