Cultural Competence Check List

Speech and language therapists will face the challenge to provide services to bilingual and/or multilingual children/adults and families/carers. Therefore, working efficiently and appropriately with interpreters and other bilingual staff is a crucial professional competency. As well we need to keep the following in mind:

☐ I am aware of my own cultural/family beliefs (including assimilation and acculturation) and how they might influence my interpretation of other cultures.

☐ I have explored and become aware about the client’s cultural approach and attitudes towards topics such as disability, impairment and health in general.

☐ I have formed a trustworthy and cooperative rapport with the client’s support system (e.g. family, carer, partner etc.) by validating their cultural views.

☐ I have created resources such as leaflets, handouts or information packages in different languages (commonly spoken languages in your area of service) in order to support understanding about related topics of speech and language therapy.

☐ I have gathered information, when appropriate and available, from interpreters and cultural alike community members about appropriateness of social routines / practices.

☐ I have created a directory of bi/multilingual interpreters and staff facility members that may be able to assist during clinical sessions.

☐ I have included bilingualism and cultural principles in the policy making, planning, assessment and service delivery process.

☐ I have selected culturally sensitive material, resources and activities for both assessment and intervention.