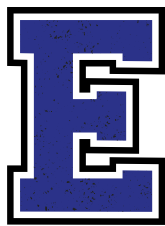# PEACE Model of Investigative Interviewing

Planning and Preparation

Ensure you plan your interview to consider all the available information. Planning will also identify other information that may need to be obtained. A good interview plan will ensure that any key issues and the objectives of the interview have been identified.

Engage and Explain

Building a good rapport quickly with the person you are interviewing is key. This will help to obtain a full account from the individual (where they are willing to provide it). Ensure you are demonstrating active listening. Remember to also consider the individuals personal characteristics when communicating with them.

Account, Clarification and Challenge

Use open questions initially to obtain the individuals account (think about TED questioning). Open questions allow the interviewer to 'test the water' to establish what the individual can provide/is willing to provide without the influence of the interviewer. Make sure that you break down each topic and cover it fully during the account phase. You can then clarify any information before challenging the account with evidence already obtained (where needed).

Closure

Always make sure that the closure of the interview is structured and doesn't end abruptly. Where there are two interviewers, the lead interviewer should ensure that the second interviewer has no further questions to ask before they close the interview. Ensure that the interview is summarised as accurately as possible. The interview can then be brought to a conclusion. Make sure that the person being interviewed knows what will happen next, and if needed, when you will be contacting them next and how they can contact you if required.

Evaluation

Investigators should always ensure that an interview is evaluated. This can assist with determining what action may be necessary and how the persons account fits in with the other evidence gathered as part of the investigation. Interviewers should also evaluate their own performance within the interview to identify any learning points or areas that went well.