

Early Years Scenario

Joanne is 24 weeks pregnant and lives with her partner Martin.

Joanne has been experiencing extreme tiredness throughout her pregnancy and struggles to get up in the morning. Joanne has stopped drinking alcohol but is struggling to stop smoking.

Martin and Joanne have a volatile relationship, which has included physical and emotional abuse. Martin has a problem with alcohol and has a background of drug use, which he still takes on occasions.

Joanne's parents split when she was young and she is only in contact with her mum, this relationship is very strained and Joanne does not receive support from her.

Joanne suffers with anxiety and depression and this has been going on since she was a teenager.

Joanne does not like going out and feels stressed all the time. She finds Martin's behaviour unpredictable and is always 'walking on eggshells', as she does not want to upset him.

Joanne gives birth to a baby girl (Amelia) six weeks early.

Amelia was born with a lower birth weight than what was expected and had a short stay in hospital.

Since bringing Amelia home Joanne has been struggling to cope due to Amelia being fractious and not sleeping and settling properly.

Joanne is crying a lot and Martin finds this frustrating and shouts at both her and the baby. Their relationship becomes more volatile and Martin is drinking more and has not returned home on occasions after nights out with his mates.

Joanne has been turning to alcohol to help her sleep at night.

Amelia is three years old and attends nursery. Amelia struggled to settle and now gets angry towards Joanne when she takes her to nursery. Staff at the nursery have also noticed that Amelia is behind her peers with her holistic development. Amelia is showing aggressive tendencies towards her peers.

Martin is angry towards Joanne and Amelia on a daily basis.

Joanne is finding Amelia's behaviour hard to cope with and takes out her frustrations on both Martin and Amelia.

Martin and Joanne's relationship breaks down and Martin moves out.

Amelia is seven years old and lives with her mum Joanne and mum's new partner Roger.

Amelia attends school regularly but is struggling both academically and emotionally. Amelia struggles to maintain friendship due to attachment and trust problems.

Joanne and Roger have a volatile relationship and Roger struggles to cope with Amelia's outbursts. This causes arguments between them.

Joanne's depression is getting worse.