What is working/not working

The situation...

Maria wants a boyfriend. Maria's mom has contacted the manager saying that she's worried about Maria's safety when she is using dating websites or meeting up with people. She's stopped Maria from going on these sites when she's at home and it's causing arguments between them.
The manager sets up a meeting with Maria, Maria's mom, and Maria's support worker, Harry to look at the situation. They use the what is working/not working tool to look at the situations from everyone's perspective.

Your task...

Read what each person has to say about Maria finding a partner and then complete a what is working/not working tool. Remember to give details of what is working and what is not working from each person's perspective.

Maria

"I don't want to be alone forever. I love going out and it would be lovely to have a fella with me. Having a really good laugh and dressing up to go out on the town, that's what I want - he would have to be nice, he'd have to be the right type. I just want someone to be with, to talk to, someone to make me happy.

I like looking at the dating site. It's exciting looking for someone and looking at the photos. It's fun. I'm looking forward to finding a boyfriend and going out together.

I've seen some pictures of people that I like but I haven't met up with anyone. I'm a bit nervous about meeting people because I don't know what to do or say. I don't want anyone to help me or get in the way – that would be embarrassing. Mom doesn't let me go on the Internet on my own. I don't think that's fair."

Maria's mom

"I would like to see Maria with a nice, kind lad, but you never know do you? If she is looking on her own then I'm afraid she might bump into someone who would take advantage of her? I can see her going to the pictures or out for a meal, that kind of thing, but anything more physical, well I'm not sure about that. If it was someone that I got to know and trust then that would be better, but I don't like the idea of these Internet dating sites at all. I don't allow Maria to use them when she comes to visit because I just don't know what she's up to and I can't watch her all the time, but it's causing us to argue.

It's not that I mind Maria having a boyfriend, but she's safe now and quite happy without someone. I don't see the need to change things.

Maria is vulnerable and the wrong man could take advantage of her. She's looking on the Internet and I don't know what she's doing and whether she's being safe. I also don't want her to have her heart broken – what if it doesn't work out? And if it does work out, I'm worried about whether Maria is ready for a more intimate relationship. I don't want to upset Maria, but I want to protect her. "

Harry, Maria's support worker

"It would be great for Maria to have a partner; she talks about it a lot. I wonder sometimes how she would feel if she was let down or he disappointed her in some way, I worry about that. It's her life though and we all have ups and downs in relationships, don't we? I don't want to over crowd her but I'd like to talk to her about how best I can support her if and when she finds someone, before they really get to know one another I wonder if there is a chance we could just be sure everything's ok and she is safe. I get on well with Maria's mom and I can see her point of view too.

It's great that Maria is expressing herself and daring to give things a go. I'm excited about her meeting someone. We've chosen the online sites together and Maria has always let me know if she's seen someone that she likes and wants to take it a bit further.

I do have some concerns over Maria's safety, because I have found out that she sometimes chats with men online and has told them where she lives. I'm also aware that Maria's mom is worried about Maria. She doesn't like the idea of Maria using the Internet to find someone and it's starting to cause an issue between the two of them. I feel a bit stuck in the middle and I'd like to figure out what my role is in all of this. "

What's working?

What's not working?

What needs to happen next to build on what's working and change what's not working?