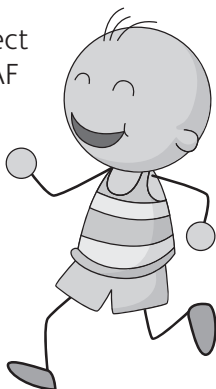


# Who will see my Family's Information?

The Lead Person will collect information on various TAF forms. You will be asked as part of the consent process who the Lead Person can share this information with.



As a rule, the information you provide will only be shared with your and your child's consent.

The only time we will share information without your consent is:-

- If we need to find out urgently if a child is at risk of harm or we need to help a child who is at risk of harm
- If we need to help an adult who is at risk of harm
- If we need to help prevent or detect a serious crime.

## Remember

You have the right to see the information that is held about you and your family at any time. If you wish to see this information you should talk to your Lead Person who will advise how you can get this information.



# My lead person's contact details:

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If you are unhappy with anything at any time, please contact your Lead Person



Cheshire West & Chester Council  
Do you need support?  
**YOUR TEAM AROUND  
THE FAMILY**

# TAF



A guide for parents and carers



# What is a TAF and HOW CAN IT HELP MY FAMILY?

**TAF stands for Team around the Family.**



A TAF is a way of finding out what extra support your family may need and how best to provide this support.

A TAF is used to get everyone together who is, or should be working with your child and family and, with your agreement, work together to identify the needs and strengths of your family.

This information will be recorded on a form to show the strengths in your family, what extra support you may need and who is best to help you with this.

The professionals involved may be a teacher, a health professional or a family support worker for example. It will mean only telling your story once!

Working with professionals like this means you and your child are listened to and your views and wishes are taken into account and we will do something with what you tell us.

**It's your family and your TAF!**

## How Does It Work?

A TAF may be used if you or someone who works with your family thinks that your child and family may benefit from some extra support from two or more agencies.

If you agree to a TAF, a professional that we call your Lead Person will arrange some time to talk to you. You will have a say in who your Lead Person is and where you would prefer to meet.

## A TAF IS VOLUNTARY

You and your child can choose to be involved in the process and your Lead Person should ask if you are happy to sign a consent form before you start any of the process.

The Lead Person will start by filling in a TAF assessment form with you. This will take into account what you think and will hopefully identify what works in your family and what needs your family may have.

The Lead Person may wish to talk to other professionals to get more information but will only do this with your consent.

If at the end of this assessment it seems that more than one agency may be needed to help you, your Lead Person will arrange a meeting with you and invite people from other agencies to attend.

If your child is older, we hope they will feel able to discuss their needs and attend the meeting themselves.

If not it is still important that your child gets the opportunity to speak to a worker and discuss their wishes and feelings. A child or young person's wish to keep information confidential from parents may be respected by the worker, where this is in the young

## What Happens Next?

Your Lead Person will write up the meeting and make a TAF plan for your child and family.

This plan will be shared with you and with whoever you have consented to be part of the plan. Regular meetings will be arranged

between yourself, your Lead Person and other professionals involved. At these meetings everyone will get together and look at how well the plan is working and if any changes are needed. Your views at this meeting are really valuable.

When it is felt that your child and family no longer need extra support, yourself and the other professionals can agree that the plan is complete and the meetings are no longer needed. At this stage the TAF will close.