

# Seven Minute Guide to Team Around the Family in Oxfordshire for families and professionals

## 1. What is Team Around the Family?

Team Around the Family (TAF) takes a **Think Family** approach. This means they help the whole family, not just the child, to make sure children get the best care. Team Around the Family helps all the different services helping a family work better together. The TAF says **who** will help the family, which can include Early Help Workers and staff in community settings like school and health workers.

## 2. What are Oxfordshire's practice principles for Team Around the Family?

- A TAF will aim to provide family support and services before things reach crisis point.
- Families, workers and services will work in partnership to improve outcomes for children and help achieve positive long-term change for families.
- Relationships matter, so where possible, one **Lead Professional** will support the family through the plan.
- All work should be **strengths based**, which means that the people working with you will help find out and build on what is working well in your family.

## 7. What can you expect?

- Your **Lead Professional** will go to all the Team Around the Family meetings to meet with the family and help agree the plan of what needs to change.
- Your views and wishes will be heard throughout.
- A Team Around the Family plan should last between six to nine months.
- As soon as a Team Around the Family plan is no longer needed it will be closed. You will be signposted to further support, if you need it.
- If things are not going well, the Lead Professional will talk to you as soon as possible about what will happen next.

## 3. What is a Team Around the Family Plan?

A Team Around the Family Plan is made in partnership. It is written and agreed by the family and the people helping the family. It says what you and others need to do (and when) to make things better for your child and family.

## 6. Who leads on the Team Around the Family plan?

The **Lead Professional** leads the Team Around the family. They are the worker who can best support your family. They could be an early help practitioner, a family support, or someone else, like a worker at a school. They will be the family's point of contact and check on the progress of the plan. The **Lead Professional** will be helped by their manager or by LCSS if they need support.

## 4. What is a Team Around the Family Meeting?

A Team Around the Family meeting is sometimes called a TAF Meeting or TAF. It is a meeting held every 8-12 weeks to see how things are going for the child and family. It looks at the plan for the Family and sees how everyone is doing and sees whether the plan needs to be changed to help things get better.

## 5. Who is involved in A Team Around the Family?

All of the agencies and individuals who can help and support the wellbeing of the child and family should be involved. They will attend meetings and support the Team Around the Family Plan. Talk to the Lead Professional if you think someone else should be involved

