Think Family

Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board

WARWICKSHIRE Safeguarding Children PARTNERSHIP

Introduction

'Think Family' means that practitioners working with children, young people or adults identify the wider family needs which extend beyond the individual they are supporting.

Everyone has a responsibility to take a 'Think Family' approach in the context of safeguarding children and adults.

Warwickshire Safeguarding recognise this to be a shared responsibility which must be at the heart of practice across all partner agencies within the Partnership.

Further Information

For further information and guidance, please see Warwickshire Safeguarding Adult Board and Children Partnership's 'Think Family' protocol by following the link:
'Think Family' Protocol

Where do we need to 'Think Family?'

Partners should note that the likelihood of risk and harm to children increases when they live with an adult with one of the following vulnerability factors:

- Substance misuse.
- Learning disabilities.
- Domestic abuse.
- Parental mental ill-health.

What are the key considerations? – continued...

- Have you liaised with professionals working with the family, especially GPs, mental health professionals and health visitors.
- Have you considered the adults may need safeguarding or support?
- Do you know which other agencies are involved and understand their role(s)?

For more key considerations, please click HERE.

Who should be 'Thinking Family'?

Anybody working with children, young people and / or adults. should have an awareness of the 'Think Family' approach and the processes that support this.

What are the key considerations?

Here are some key questions that would help you support a child, young person and / or adult within the family:

- Do you understand the relationships within the family, especially where parents, carers and relevant ex-partners are involved with services?
- Have you gained the consent of any adults or the parents of children before sharing information about them?

What are the benefits?

The 'Think Family' approach has significant benefits for children, young people, adults, carers, families and for organisations. They include:

- Improved outcomes for children, young people, adults, carers, and families including safeguarding, health, and wellbeing.
- Better use of resources including finance and time.
- Less duplication between organisations and services.
- Improved staff morale.