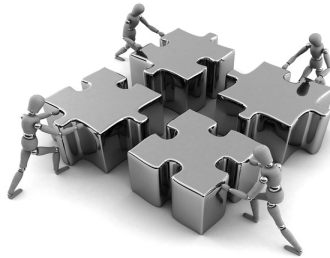




The Rotherham Parent Partnership Service

Rotherham
Metropolitan
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Where Everyone Matters



Key Working

The Children and Families Act was given Royal Assent in March 2014. Part of this Act is to reshape the system for children and young people who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), and their parents/ carers. Over the time it has taken for the Children and Families Bill to become an Act, there has been many discussions, and areas of work which have taken place across the Country to look at how the changes can be made real for you, your family and your child or young person who has SEND. Part of this work has been around **Key Working**. Key working is sometimes referred to as **Lead Working** basically both terms mean the same thing.

What is Key Working?

Key working is:

- A way of enabling effective support that can help to build strong resilient children, young people and families.
- Defined by 10 functions (see below)
- Based on a person centred way of thinking and partnership approaches to working
- Family focussed as well as child or young person focussed
- Underpinned by an approach that enables open, equality promoting and supportive relationships
- A way to facilitate the coordination of an integrated package of support for children, young people and families.

Key working can be used for children and young people who have additional needs from birth to adulthood, and their families.



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What are the 10 Key Working Functions?

1. Providing emotional and practical support as a part of a trusting relationship
2. Enabling and empowering for decision making and the use of personal budgets
3. Coordinating practitioners and services around the child, young person and family
4. Being a single point of regular and consistent contact
5. Facilitating Multiagency meetings
6. Supporting and facilitating a single planning and joint assessment process
7. Identifying strengths and needs of family members
8. Providing information and signposting
9. Advocating on a child's, young person's and / or family's behalf
10. Facilitating clinical and social care seamlessly, integrated with specialist and universal services in an equality promoting approach.

Who can provide Key Working support?

People who deliver the Key Working functions could come from Health, Education or Social Care. They could be from a Voluntary, Community or Private and Independent Sector or could even be a parent/ carer or the young person themselves. It should be someone who is selected according to the specific needs of the child or young person and their family and is likely to be someone from the team around the child / young person. This will most likely be someone who is working with the family already. To ensure Key working is effective it should be someone who has the appropriate skills, training and time.

Not all families will need the same level, intensity, frequency or number of Key Working Functions. The amount of support may vary between requiring a moderate amount of support, a high level of support or an intense level of support dependent on the needs at the time.

For more detailed information about Key Working Functions please visit

www.ncb.org/early-support/key-working

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