

What is a Lead Professional, and who is responsible for undertaking this role?

Any practitioner in the borough may be called upon to act as a Lead Professional as part of their role with families.

A Lead Professional for a family is agreed collaboratively by the Team Around the Family and is usually nominated due to being:

- the practitioner who has the best relationship with the family.
- the practitioner whom the family specifically wishes to be their Lead Professional.
- the practitioner whose professional discipline best reflects the main presenting needs of the family (e.g. a family with predominantly learning needs are likely to be supported by a Lead Professional from Education, with predominantly health needs by a Lead Professional from Health etc.)

Lead Professional - Hints and tips

- Always ensure that the family and other workers involved have your contact details.
- Ensure you
- have the contact details of the other practitioners.
- Set a review date at your first TAF meeting and subsequent dates at next meetings.
- Plan your contacts with the child/family so that they know when you will be actively involved.
- Check back with colleagues at regular intervals to see how things are going.
- Remember you are part of a team, you are not expected to do everything.
- Be prepared to re-convene a meeting if things aren't going to plan. If another practitioner is not carrying out what was agreed, raise this with them and find out the reason. Hopefully this will focus them back on the plan, if this continues raise it with your manager.