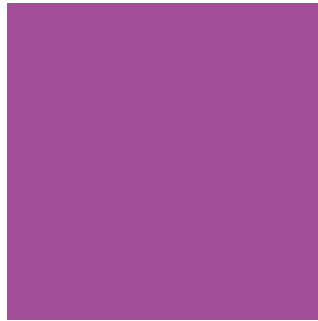


Think Family



Family life is challenging; but when faced with many problems at once, it can be hard to know where to turn

Think Family can help



What is Think Family?

Think Family is not a new service but a new way of working. Think Family provides services that meet the needs of your whole family, rather than supporting one person separately. Think Family is offered where: -

- An adult is out of work
- There are concerns about a child's school attendance
- A young person is not in education, training or work
- A family member has been in trouble within the neighbourhood or with the Police
- A family member has physical or emotional health problems
- You are having problems that are stopping you from bringing up your children as well as you could (such as housing, relationship or money worries).

If your family has had more than one of these problems, Think Family can help.

How does it work?

You will have a support worker who will: -

- meet your family and get to know you
- help you make a plan to solve your problems one step at a time
- bring together all the support you need and make sure it works
- help you get advice on benefits and budgeting
- offer a tailored service to increase your chances of employment
- ensure you have help and advice on parenting
- offer practical help to improve school attendance and behaviour

This type of support will stop problems getting worse and help you give your children the best start in life. Our aim is to help you to make positive, long-lasting improvements.

What are the benefits?

We will help you access the services and support you need to: -

- improve family life
- improve access to health services
- improve opportunities for work or training
- improve school attendance
- reduce anti-social behaviour and crime

What do I need to do?

Your involvement is vital to making Think Family work. It's important that you all work together to make a difference. For us to help you we need you to: -

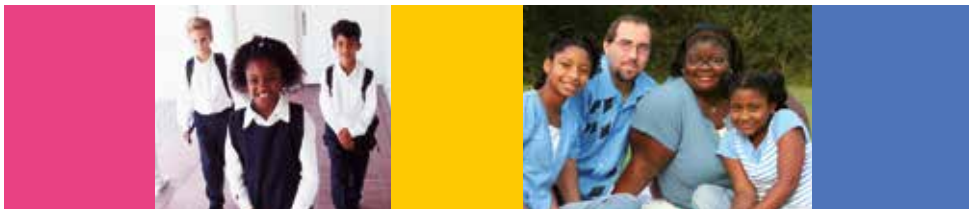
- listen to each other and listen to your support worker
- share information to help us understand your needs and offer the right support
- work with other services that can support your family
- attend meetings and appointments

We can't solve your problems for you; but we will ensure you are supported to make changes for your family.

If at any point you are concerned that something isn't working; tell us and we will do our best to solve it together.

Your Support Worker is:

Telephone:



Think Family

Think Family is a Birmingham partnership that includes: -

- Children and Family services
- Schools
- Children's Centres
- Health services
- Housing services
- Youth Offending Service
- Employment services
- Fire Service
- Police
- Probation Service
- Voluntary organisations



Using information to help you

To make sure we can help you and your children as much as possible, we need to exchange information about your family with our partner agencies. This is to find out what support you need, and to make sure that what we are doing is working.

The Government is also running some research to identify the most effective ways of working with families, this is called the National Impact Study (NIS) and your information could be shared as part of it. It will not affect any decisions about you or your family including benefits and services you may be receiving. You can request for your information not to be shared for the NIS, this will not affect any support you receive from Think Family.

All your information will be handled in line with the Data Protection Act. To find out more (or to opt out of the NIS) visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/privacy e-mail TFSupport@birmingham.gov.uk or phone **0121 303 5522**.