

TAC responsibilities

- Members of the TAC are jointly responsible for developing and delivering the delivery plan to meet the needs of the child or young person, and achieve the intended outcomes identified through the common assessment
- Each member of the TAC is responsible for delivering the activities they agreed to carry out as part of the delivery plan
- Each member of the TAC is responsible for keeping the other members of the team informed about progress in their area of responsibility (normally via the lead professional or eCAF Episode Coordinator), providing reports promptly when requested and attending meetings
- All TAC members should contribute to taking minutes and chairing meetings, and take on other tasks as necessary
- TAC members should support the lead professional by providing information, offering guidance and advice
- TAC members should contribute actively and positively to solving problems or resolving difficulties

Review

The eCAF and Action Plan are regularly reviewed by the TAC to monitor progress toward agreed outcomes. The review identifies any unmet or additional needs for the child or young person's smooth transition between universal, targeted and specialist services. This may involve further multi-agency meetings and liaison between the members of the TAC. Reviews are recorded on the eCAF system in the same way as the initial assessment, with the updated Action Plan.

Multi-agency integrated support

The CAF, together with the lead professional and good practice in information sharing through the TAC, has a crucial contribution to make to the development of multi-agency integrated support. These processes will help change the way that services are delivered, shifting the focus from dealing with the consequences of difficulties in children and young people's lives to preventing things from going wrong in the first place. This will help more children and young people to achieve the five ECM outcomes.

eCAF and the Team Around the Child (TAC)

A brief guide for practitioners



Common Assessment and Integrated Working

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is an assessment of what the family and services can do jointly to address children and young people's needs. Joint, or 'integrated' working is particularly important when a child or young person has additional needs to those usually met through universal services.

The CAF is a generic and holistic early assessment of a child or young person's strengths and needs that is applicable across children's services and the whole children and young people's workforce.

Universal services provide preventative personalised services for all children and young people. In most cases, a child or young person's needs are addressed at this early stage.

Integrated tools and processes aim to put in place support for practitioners working together to identify and tackle needs as early as possible. Problems can therefore be addressed more quickly and effectively because practitioners with a range of expertise and skills from across the children and young people's workforce provide preventative personalised services.

What is a Team Around the Child (TAC)?

The Team Around the Child (TAC) is a model of multi-agency service provision used when a CAF has been started and an integrated response is required. The TAC brings together a range of relevant practitioners from across children's services to support an individual child or young person and their family. The members of the TAC develop and deliver an integrated package of solution-focused support to meet the needs identified through the Common Assessment.

The TAC might include workers from the public, private and third sectors. They work together to deliver effective frontline services, with the child or young person at the centre of everything they do, in order to meet their needs and improve their outcomes as set out in Every Child Matters (ECM).

A TAC is not a team that is located together or who work together all the time; rather, it suggests a multidisciplinary group of

practitioners working together as needed to help a particular child or young person.

It is important that the child or young person and parents/carers are also included as part of the TAC wherever possible.

The model is based on the ethos that a flexible workforce is essential if children's services are to be able to meet the diverse needs of each and every child or young person. TAC places the emphasis firmly on the needs and strengths of the child or young person, rather than on organisations or service providers.

Each practitioner in the TAC is responsible/accountable to their home agency for the services they deliver to children, young people and families.

The Lead Professional

The Lead Professional acts as the main point of contact for the child or young person and their family, and also co-ordinates delivery of integrated services.

Liz Smith, Senior Educational Psychologist,
Integrated Working
Tel: 01753 787696 Admin: 01753 787640

Suki Bhachu, Slough eCAF Coordinator
Tel: 01753 477225 Email:
sukhvinder.bhachu@slough.gov.uk