

What is a Circle of Support meeting?

It's a safe place for family and/or friends to talk, explore options and strengthen relationships.

What is the aim?

To enable families to gain control, be heard and shape their own change.

Who organises the meeting?

The person who organises the meeting will depend on the families' circumstances.

These could include:

- Coordinator
- Someone from your school
- A health professional
- Family or Friends
- Someone from your circle of support

Who can attend?

- Family
- Friends
- Neighbours
- Colleagues
- Your community groups
- Anyone who you feel is like your family

Useful contacts

Family Group Decision Making Team
FGDMTeam@Telford.gov.uk

Family Rights Group
www.frg.org.uk

Consent

Circle of support meeting is voluntary, you can say yes or no at any time. However, there maybe an exception to this if there are worries or concerns for your child's welfare, a professional will discuss this with you.



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

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CIRCLE OF SUPPORT



Family Group Decision Making

Stage 1 – Preparation

Your co-ordinator will talk to you about who you feel is in your family network and arrange for them to be invited. After this has been arranged your co-ordinator will arrange a time and place for the meeting that suits you best.

Where possible the meeting will take place in the language that you use at home and in a location that you feel most comfortable in. They will also try to make sure that the child or children's views, wishes and feelings are heard.

Stage 3 – Private time

This is time for the professionals to leave the room so discussion can be had in private.

- Discuss the information given
- Decide what support they need
- Decide who can do what
- Work out and agree a plan
- Come up with a contingency plan

What does a circle of support look like?

WHO COULD BE IN YOUR CIRCLE OF SUPPORT?



Stage 2 – Gathering information

The facilitator most closely involved will explain to the family:

- Why they are worried about the child/young person
- What resources and services are available to support the family

The family may ask for any additional information they may need to help with the plan.

Stage 4 – Agreeing the plan

Once the plan has been agreed this is then shared with the professionals. The plan will be accepted unless it places the child/young person at risk or does not address the original concerns.