

Case Study

A young person aged 10 years and his family were referred into the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) by his paternal grandparents who were raising concerns about his lack of education and social isolation. Following the completion of a Proportionate Assessment by a social worker in the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) the case was stepped down to Team Around the Family at the Early Intervention Panel.

It was established that due to ongoing health issues the child was having to isolate during the Covid 19 pandemic, he was in the high risk category and in order to ensure his safety his mother and his younger siblings isolated as per the Government's guidance.

However grandparents felt that mother was denying him his education, socialisation and by stopping contact was impacting on the relationship with them and his father. The child was being home schooled as a result of his isolation.

The family worker completed a comprehensive assessment with all family members including father and paternal grandparents. Assessment sessions with mother and the child were conducted virtually.

A Family Support Plan was co produced with family members

Support Provided

Due to ongoing issues with mother's emotional wellbeing home education was proving to be a challenge, support was given to mother in planning sessions for the child. The family worker was able to develop a link with the educated at home co ordinator who was able to support mother with resources to promote learning. As the child was due to transition from primary school to secondary school but was unable to attend the planned days with his peers the family worker liaised with both schools to ensure that this support was offered virtually.

The family worker ensured that there was regular communication with school to ensure that the child's voice was being heard and that his needs were addressed in his new school.

The family worker was an advocate for the child and ensured that his voice was heard by others such as school, grandparents and father. The family worker took a mediation role to ensure that once possible contact between the child and his paternal family members resumed.

When restrictions were reduced and the child had received his Covid 19 immunisations the family worker supported him to attend sessions at his new comprehensive school to promote his transition into secondary education.

The family worker supported mother to secure a Save the Children Grant to purchase equipment for home schooling, a food poverty grant to enable mother to reduce her energy costs. During the period of isolation the family worker also ensured that the family had access to food bank parcels.

The family worker supported the child and his siblings to engage in a number of social activities including the Team Around the Family 'Summer Squad' that ran over the summer holiday period and was delivered in conjunction with the Welsh Rugby Union, a trip to Folly Farm that was organised by staff from Team Around the Family and funded from the Child Development Fund, swimming and a Glamorgan cricket match held at the Gnoll.

Engagement with Team Around the Family was very good and the family successfully achieved their outcomes and the case was closed in November 2022. The family received Mr X gifts and an 'everyone deserves a christmas' food hamper.