

**A Parent’s Guide to Confidentiality**

**Inspiring Futures**



**Understanding Confidentiality**

Confidentiality and law are sometimes difficult areas to navigate. This leaflet is a handy guide for parents/carers or guardians to see when information can and cannot be shared.

**Safeguarding**

We will at all times comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and keep your information confidential unless we have consent to share with specific people. However we may need to pass on information in the following circumstances:

• Where a child or someone else is at risk of harm

• If Turning Point is required to share information about you when summoned by a court or is a witness to an incident

• If information is disclosed about certain criminal offences, including being in possession of offensive weapons, drugs trafficking or potential acts of terrorism.

**Parental/carers consent: the rules around confidently and involvement.**

If a child is under 13 years of age, parental consent should be obtained, unless this puts the child at more risk. Staff members will contact the parents directly to arrange an assessment. When a child is 13 and over, and has been deemed to have competency on assessment the young person can ask for information in the sessions not to be shared with parent/guardian or carer.

If the parents or carers made the referral, they should be advised that the service is for the young person and consent and confidentiality will be explained to them at time of the referral.

Even though sharing information with parents is not legally binding from 13+, keyworkers will always endeavour to discuss why sharing information with parents and/or other professionals can be of benefit to the young person if appropriate.

The young person will be informed they have the right to add or withdraw consent at any time. It will be explained to the young person that they have a right to complain and how to do this. They will be informed of who they can speak to, by telling a parent, a friend or another professional.

Turning point is required to provide specific information to their local Commissioning Team, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and NHS Digital. All this information is none identifiable. We will only share information if you give us consent to do so, and will only break confidentiality if we have a Safeguarding concern or required to by law.