FACTS 4 U 2: What is Oldham Family Link?

Welcome to Family Link

Family Link is about making new friends and having fun.

Children visit Family Link carers in their own homes.

Family Link carers are all different. Some live on their own. Others have families.

This fact sheet can be made available in other languages or formats on request by contacting 0161 770 6666. For further information please see our detailed fact sheet – Information for all.
If Family Link carers have children they will enjoy including you in their activities.

This could be playing with toys, going to the park, swimming, playing in the garden, watching television, going to the cinema etc.

**Introductions**

You and your mum or dad, or full time carer, will meet with your social worker to talk about your first visits with your Family Link Carer.

Your Family Link carer will visit you at home and get to know you and your family before you visit their home.

When you feel ready you will visit the Family Link carers home.

When you know your Family Link carer very well, you may want to stay the night.
You may have your own bedroom, or you may share with your Family Link carer’s children.

When you feel ready to visit regularly we will have a meeting called a **Placement Agreement Meeting**.

Your family, the Family Link carer, your social worker and you, will all get together to decide how often you will visit, and on what days of the week.

**The Review Meeting**

After 3 months we will have a review meeting. This is where we all get together again to talk about what you like and dislike about Family Link.

If anything needs to change we will make a new plan.

This will be written down and your social worker will send you and your family a copy.

**Listening to Children**

The Family Link Team and Social Workers believe that it is very important to listen to children who visit Family Link carers.
The Family Link Team believes that:

All children should be safe and well cared for.

Bullying is not right

Everyone is different and that is a good thing.

We should all talk together

Everyone has a right to be heard

I'm not happy about…

If you are unhappy about something, tell your social worker. We hope we can make it better for you.

We hope you have found this fact sheet helpful. If you have any other questions just ask your social worker.
We want your comments and suggestions

We want to provide good quality services for people in Oldham and as we are a public service, you have a say in everything we do.

We want you to be happy with our services, but to make sure we do this we need to know what you think.

- What do we do best?

- What could we do better? Do you have any ideas or suggestions?

Only by listening to you can we give you the service you deserve. Our Complaints & Representation Officer welcomes everything you have to say and will reply to you personally about what you have said.

Free post, Complaints & Representation Officer
OMBC, PO BOX 4, Civic Centre, Level 8, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1UL

Tel: 0161 770 1129

Fax: 0161 770 3222

Email: cypf.complaints@oldham.gov.uk

The Complaints & Representation Officer only speaks English but if you like we can arrange to visit you with an interpreter.