

## Unidentified Adults

### Top Tips for Engaging

These top tips have been identified to support workers to notice when another adult is involved in a child's life where it wasn't expected or reported. The presence of another adult may be a safeguarding risk but equally may be a source of support to a child.

Every agency has its own key points where information is sought or provided.

The purpose of the 'top tips' is to increase professionals awareness and to assist in prompting professional to notice changes, outside of the usual contact.

It may not be appropriate for all professionals to question but to share information with the relevant agency.

- Introducing yourself or asking to be introduced to another person
- Asking them to introduce themselves
- Enquiring respectfully about other adults who may be in a child's life who can offer support or who may need support. This information could be gained by aiming questions to the adult rather than the child – particularly if they are a single parent / working parent. For example – is there anyone who you can / do ask to help with things around the house or the children?
- All written communication should be inclusive of all key people in a person's or child's life
- Being aware of person's concerns about sharing information due to loss of benefits, implications for housing provisions previous experience of services.
- Offering the next contact at a time when the other adult can be present and noting the response to this. E.g. happily accepted or avoided
- Asking a direct question as to why they are at the property
- Asking where they normally reside.
- Explore (where possible) how long they have been known to the child/family and how they got to know them.