ENABLING FAMILY TIME

Enabling Family Time is a short-term, child-focused service arranged by Cafcass during family court proceedings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

4B Springfield Court, Summerfield Road,
Off Manchester Road, Bolton, BL3 2NT

01204 369130

www.canw.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 222533

CANW

Child Action Northwest



WHAT IS ENABLING FAMILY TIME

Enabling Family Time is a short-term, child-focused service arranged by Cafcass during family court proceedings. It helps children spend safe and meaningful time with a parent they do not live with, or another important adult.

The service is only offered where a Family Court Adviser (FCA) believes it is in the child's best interests.

Our Aim

- Create positive experiences - safe, calm and supportive time together.
- Keep children at the centre - decisions are guided by your child's needs, wishes and feelings.
- Support future arrangements - help families build longer-term plans.

How it Works

Short-term and structured (up to 3 sessions)

- Sessions last around 90 minutes
- Usually one session per week
- Sessions usually take place in person

KEY INFORMATION

Locations may include

- Family centres
- Community settings (e.g. parks, libraries)
- Other agreed safe venues

You may need to travel up to one hour each way.

Your Role

During the service, families are expected to:

- Put the child's needs first
- Attend and engage fully
- Be respectful to staff and each other
- Help create a calm, positive experience

SESSION INFORMATION

Before Sessions Begin

A family time worker will:

- Introduce themselves to you and your child
- Discuss any needs or arrangements
- Explain how sessions will work

You must:

- Agree to take part
- Be available within the service timescale
- Have completed Planning Together for Children

SESSION INFORMATION

During Sessions

A trained family time worker will:

- Support a safe and calm environment
- Observe interactions
- Listen to your child
- Record factual notes

Important:

- This is not a mediation or therapy service
- Risks have already been assessed by the court

After Each Session

- Notes are sent to the FCA within 2 working days
- These are factual and may be used in court
- Reports are not usually shared directly with families

After The Service

- The FCA updates the court
- This helps decide future arrangements
- Further sessions may be arranged privately with NACCC accredited providers if needed

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CONTACT US

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