

Case Study

Family Composition:

Mum (44)

Mum's partner (54)

Child A (12 Male)

Reason for Involvement:

Referral was made to Intensive Family support in August 2014. Previous history of physical, emotional and sexual abuse against Child A. The family were living in Leicestershire and had a long history of Social Care involvement involving physical, emotional abuse and neglect perpetrated by biological father, biological mother and step-father and step-mother. Child A has been subject to child protection plans in Leicestershire whilst in the care of both parents. The sexual abuse was perpetrated by Child A's half-brother.

Child A was not in education full time and attendance was sporadic and deteriorating. Within the school Child A was attending a behaviour management unit due to severe disruption in mainstream classroom. Child A also truanted from lessons within the school site and would leave site without permission. There were concerns about his mental health as well as neuro-developmental and/or communication concerns and he had been diagnosed with a disorganised attachment. Mother had a history of diagnosed depression with psychotic episodes.

Child A was at risk of committing anti-social behaviour and there were reports of aggression and threats of violence at times threatening to kill his peers. Also, there is a history of sexual offending against children in the wider family network and Child A was exhibiting sexually inappropriate language.

Team around the Family

- Education
- Educational Psychologist
- CFF Family Systemic Therapist
- CAMHS
- School SENCO
- Intensive Family Support
- Adult Mental Health services

Intervention

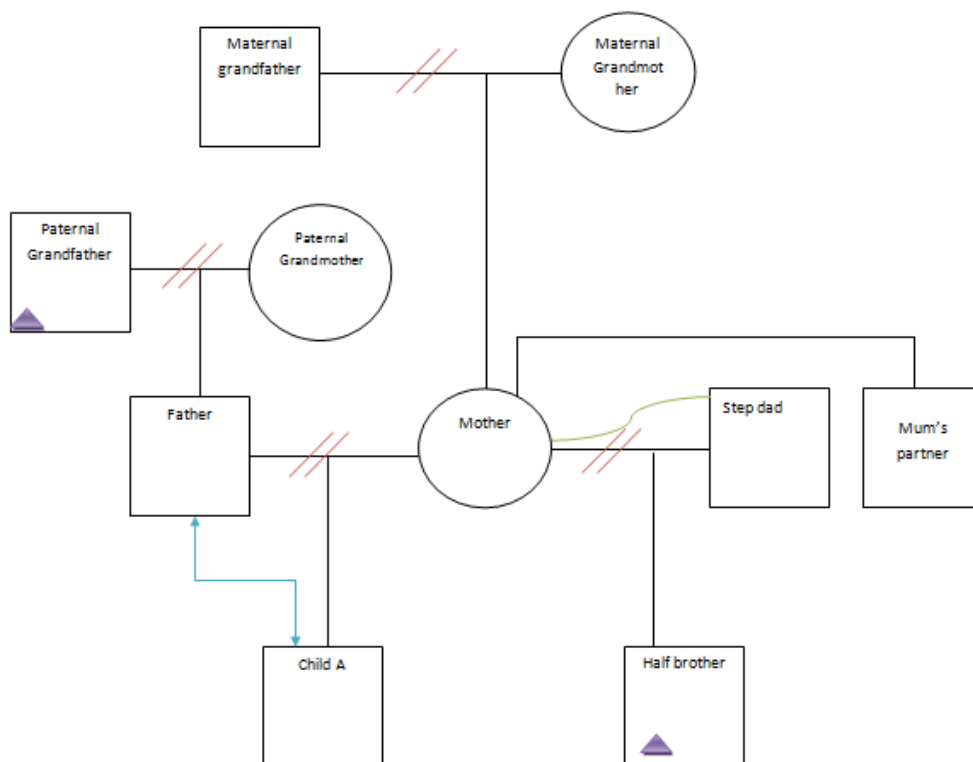
- Completion of the Educational Psychologist assessment, diagnosed with significant receptive communication difficulties which enabled the school and allied agencies to tailor the interventions to the individual needs of the child.
- Regular multi-agency review meetings (CAF)
- Behavioural management strategy implemented at school to increase attendance and schools understanding of behaviours
- Support to reintegrate into mainstream classes and reduce truancy
- 1:1 work with Systemic Family Therapist for post trauma, abuse and disorganised attachment.

- Mother had regular face to face meetings with the Children and Family worker, looking at family history and her own mental health impacting on her parenting. Strategies for managing and communicating, Child A's behaviour were discussed under the guidance Systemic Family Therapist.
- Wider family issues were also addressed by Intensive Family Support team.

Impact:

- ✓ Child A reintegrated into mainstream education with attendance above 90%
- ✓ Reduction in aggressive behaviour
- ✓ Sexualised behaviour ceased
- ✓ Engaged in intensive psychotherapy with results shared within the multi agency context.
- ✓ Intensive family support into home reduced conflict and increased parental understanding of behaviour and communication difficulties.
- ✓ Specialist education support has enabled the school to better understand and manage the needs of the child.
- ✓ Multi agency team was well coordinated and as a result were able to respond to the changing needs of Child A.
- ✓ Mom's mental and physical health continue to be addressed but have greatly improved in that she has a CPN for her mental health needs and her physical needs will continue to be addressed by her GP.

Appendix 1: Genogram



// Separated

▲ Sexual Offences

~ Violence

↔ Emotional damage / Neglect