



## Child Development Service

### Social Workers

Social workers with the CDS work with children from age 0 to 18 years and their families. The decision for Social Work support is made at the **Resource Allocation Panel (RAP)**.

Social workers will usually come to your home to talk to you and your child to find out more information about what activities they may enjoy, how they may communicate and what support you feel would help. This is normally referred to as an assessment which includes speaking with other professionals with your consent, and in some situations extended family members. The assessment is then recorded in a Child's Plan which includes actions regarding services and support that your child may require.

If your child has a Social Worker they will usually be the **Lead Professional** for your child. This means they will be responsible for making sure the action plan for your child is followed and kept under regular review. This is usually done by having regular **Team around the Child** meetings.

If required, Social Work involvement will continue until your child is 18, and support will be provided to help them transition to Adult Disability Services. If at any point it is felt that Social Work involvement is no longer necessary this will be discussed with you and the other professionals involved and a decision will be made at a Team around the Child meeting.