

## Meet our team

We are psychotherapists, nurses and psychologists, and we all have training in adult and child mental health.

We have experience working with families with complex problems in relationships, parenting or mental health. Our expertise is in parent-child relationships, infant mental health, trauma, and family law.

We work as a team, which means we bring multiple viewpoints to your family and offer a comprehensive assessment of your situation.

## Contact us

Family assessment and safeguarding service

Raglan House

23 Between Towns Road,

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OX4 3LX

Phone: 01865 902418

Website: [www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk)

If you would like to have information translated into a different language, please contact the Equality and Diversity Team at:

[EqualityandInclusion@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:EqualityandInclusion@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk)

**Arabic** يُرجى الاتصال بنا إذا كنتم ترغبون في الحصول على المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بتسويق مختلف.

**Bengali** আপনি এই তথ্য অন্য ভাষায় বা আলাদা আকারে পেতে চাইলে অনুগ্রহ করে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

**Urdu** اگر آپ یہ معلومات دیگر زبان یا مختلف فارمیٹ میں چاہتے ہیں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

**Chinese** 若要以其他語言或格式提供這些資訊，請與我們聯繫

**Polish** Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, skontaktuj się z nami.

**Portuguese** Queira contactar-nos se pretender as informações noutro idioma ou num formato diferente.

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**NHS**

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Family assessment and safeguarding service

**Family court  
assessments**

*Information for families*

## About your court assessment

If you are coming to our family assessment and safeguarding service (FASS) for a family court assessment, your family is probably in care proceedings and the court has questions about how safe it is for your child or children to be in your care.

We will meet with you for a two-day assessment then offer our expert opinion to the court.

As well as doing family court assessments, we also offer therapy for families. If you see us for a family court assessment, we may offer treatment for your family after proceedings finish.

## What to expect

### Before we meet

The court will send us a list of questions that it wants us to answer. We will also receive information about your family and about the issues in your care proceedings.

### Day one

We will think with you about the court's concerns. We will also talk about the kinds

of experiences you have had in your life that may have shaped you as a parent. Usually, day one is for parents only. When there is more than one parent you will have some sessions together and some on your own.

### Day two

On day two we will continue our discussions about your family situation. We will observe you and your child playing and you will be asked to complete some questionnaires.

### Feedback session

We will invite you back to talk through our opinion, and explain what we will write in our court report. You will have an opportunity to ask questions.

### Report

Our report will give our opinion on whether your child can be safe in your care in the future and what additional support you might need. The court will use our report alongside other information to make its final decision.

## Our approach

Our focus is on your child's safety and wellbeing. When we meet with you, we usually have these questions in our mind:

- Do you understand the concerns people have about your child's safety? What is your perspective?
- Can you think with us about any possible risks to your child's safety in the future (physical safety, emotional safety)
- How well are you able to keep your child safe
- What gives you the greatest joy as a parent? What do you find most difficult?
- Would your family benefit from additional support or therapy, for the parts of parenting you find difficult.

We understand how difficult and worrying it can be for parents in care proceedings. We encourage you to ask questions at any point if you're unsure about the FASS process or about our role with your family.