

QAF case study – Sally’s placement



THE YOUNG PERSON

Sally* is a young lady of 10 who has been through a lot in her short life. Like many her age she loves to horseback ride, draw and sing.

Sally came into care due to neglect and numerous other issues that were impacting the family.

The past year has been tough, firstly living with her maternal aunt, finding out who her father is, living with her father and then moving in with her paternal uncle and aunt.

CASEWORK AND THE QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK

Sally’s caseworker undertook the Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) Child and Young Person Questionnaires with her as part of her casework activities. Sally’s caseworker also arranged for the Questionnaire for Carers to be completed by her Aunty and Uncle.

Sally had completed three rounds of questionnaires every six months. One while living with her maternal aunt, the second while with her father and then while with her uncle.

Sally did enjoy using the iPad to answer the questions and also preferred for the caseworker to go through the questions with her.

THE OUTCOME

The QAF Child and Young Person Questionnaire allowed the caseworker to compare Sally’s responses over time. The results showed that Sally felt safe at dads and her paternal uncle’s houses however, there were issues while living with her maternal aunt.

The caseworker knew that Sally kept things very close to her chest. As the caseworker reviewed the Child and Young Person Questionnaire results, Sally began to open up about her experience while living with her maternal aunt. Sally explained to her caseworker that she would get into trouble for the smallest things. She had to do a lot of the housework and would get into trouble if she didn’t. Her aunty would also take her mobile phone off her and not let her talk to her father.

“It highlighted what her aunty thought of Sally and what it was like for Sally to be living there, it gave me a chance to discuss this with Sally and it was a platform to start a conversation”

Sally is no longer living with her aunty or her father and is happily living with her paternal uncle and aunty. She has started horse riding lessons, something she has always wanted to do and is enjoying getting to know her paternal side of the family.

* Name/s changed to protect the privacy of individuals