

ContactPoint – Making a positive difference to the lives of children and young people

ContactPoint is part of the work the Government and Hertfordshire Children's Trust Partnership are doing to make sure that all children and young people fulfil their potential, whoever they are, and no matter what problems they may face.

At the moment, it can take a long time for a professional (e.g. a doctor, a teacher or a social worker) to find out who else is working with the same child, which means a child and their family may have to wait a long time to get the help they need.

This is where ContactPoint will help. It will be an online directory which will hold the names and basic details of every child in England from 0-18 and will only hold basic details, like their name, age and where they live. It will also show the contact details of other professionals who are currently working with the child. It will **not** hold more detailed reports such as case notes or school reports.

ContactPoint will be used by professionals who work with children and young people and need it to do their jobs. Everyone who uses it must pass strict security checks and will be properly trained. They will need a password, PIN and security fob in order to access it and the system will be monitored closely to make sure it is used properly.

You can find out more about ContactPoint and other ways children's services are working together to help children, young people and their families by visiting www.hertsdirect.org/caf or <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/deliveringservices/contactpoint/>