

## 7 GOLDEN RULES

**DATA PROTECTION ISN'T A BARRIER TO SAFEGUARDING**

The UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 allow lawful data sharing to protect children. Fear of breaching confidentiality should never delay action.

**BE OPEN AND HONEST**

Where appropriate, inform families about what information will be shared, with whom, and why, unless doing so places a child at risk.

**SEEK CONSENT WHERE APPROPRIATE, BUT DO NOT DELAY**

Consent is not required when there is a safeguarding risk, and practitioners should act promptly.

**BE CLEAR ON PURPOSE**

Only share information that is necessary and relevant for safeguarding purposes.

**ENSURE ACCURACY AND CLARITY**

Data should be factual, accurate, and distinguish between opinions and evidence.

**SHARE SECURELY AND RESPONSIBLY**

Share information only with those who need it and follow legal and organisational security protocols.

**KEEP A RECORD**

Document what information was shared, with whom, why it was shared, and any decisions made.