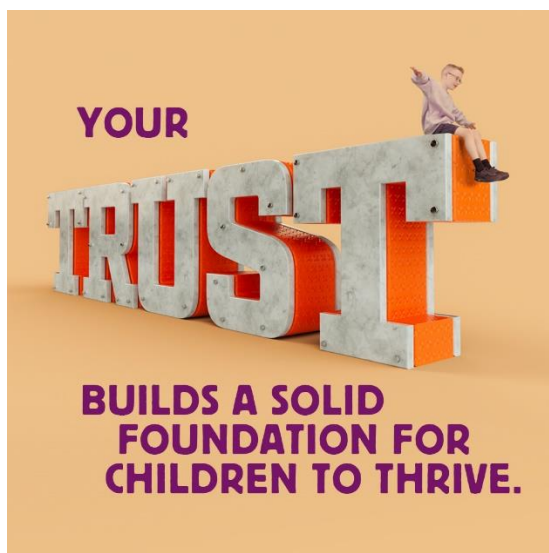
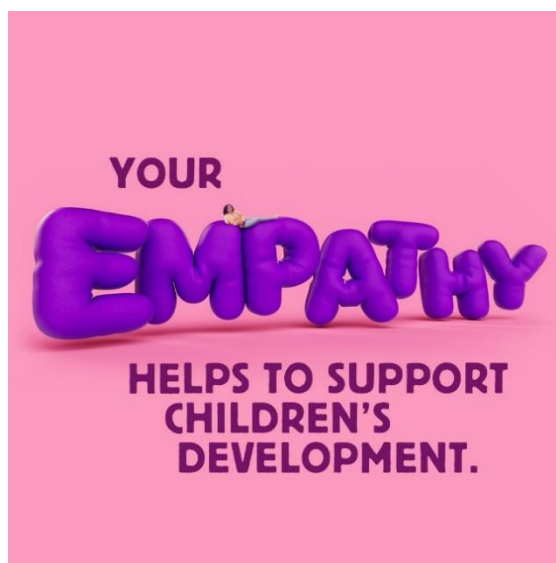


The Role of a Children's Panel Member



Who are Panel Members?

Panel Members are volunteers from the local community.

As far as reasonably practical, the volunteers who serve on the Children's Panel live or work in the local authority area in which the infants, children, and young people for whom they are making decisions also live. This is to make sure that they are familiar with the local area, and its services.

Qualities

The qualities which best reflect what young people with hearings experience look for in a Panel Member are:

- good listeners
- build trust
- compassionate
- show empathy

National Standards

All Panel Members follow a set of [National Standards](#) which are a set of core values, principles and expectations in relation to the behaviours and practice of everyone involved with the Children's Panel.

The main aspects of the Panel Member role are the ability to:

- communicate effectively, especially to connect with children, young people and their families;
- manage challenging situations;
- understand the issues facing infants, children, young people and their families;
- make decisions and articulate reasons for those decisions with sensitivity;
- understand and process complex and sensitive information and reports;
- work with others;
- facilitate hearing discussions and fulfil legal requirements; and
- commit to undertake training and attend hearings.

