

Information sharing

Under the Family Violence Act 2018 and Oranga Tamariki Act 1989

What's changed?

On 1 July new and amended legislation came into force that's all about enabling people and agencies working with tamariki and whānau to share information appropriately so that tamariki and whānau can be safe from harm.

Guidance on how to safely share information has been provided under both the Family Violence Act 2018 and the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989. Links to these guidance documents are available at the bottom of this page.

	The Family Violence Act 2018	The Oranga Tamariki Act 1989
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">introduces new laws that allow information to be shared to identify, stop, prevent and otherwise respond to family violenceapplies to the family violence sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none">amends the existing information sharing provisions to allow information to be shared for the safety and wellbeing of tamarikiapplies to the child welfare and protection sector
Both Acts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">apply to many of the same agencies and people, including schools, early childhood services, health professionals, social workers, some non-government organisations, Police and other government departmentsare designed to encourage agencies and people to voluntarily share information, and work collaborativelyare about ensuring information that is relevant is shared appropriately, and for the right purposesmean people are generally protected from civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings as long as information is shared in good faith, and they comply with the relevant information sharing provisions.	

How do I know which legislation I should use to share information?

Use the provisions in the **Oranga Tamariki Act 1989** to share information if it's to:

- prevent or reduce the risk of harm, ill-treatment, abuse, or neglect for tamariki
- make or contribute to an assessment of the risks or needs of tamariki
- make, contribute to, or monitor any support plan for tamariki that is managed by Oranga Tamariki.

Use the provisions in the **Family Violence Act 2018** if it's to:

- help protect a victim from family violence
- make or contribute to a family violence risk or need assessment
- make decisions or carry out plans related to responding to family violence.

Where can I find out more about these provisions?

There's guidance on using the information sharing provisions in the Family Violence Act 2018 here (www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/key-initiatives/reducing-family-and-sexual-violence/a-new-family-violence-act/information-sharing-guidance) and guidance on using the information sharing provisions in the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 here (www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/working-with-children/information-sharing).

If you're still unsure about sharing under the Family Violence Act 2018 after reading the guidance documents, you can call the helpline on 0508 INFOSH (463 674) or email: fvinformationsharing@justice.govt.nz