**TOM’S STORY BEFORE THE NETWORK MEETING**

My names Tom. I’m 14 years old and I live at home with my Mum, my 12 year old sister Katie and my 2 year old brother David. I’ve not been feeling very well recently. My asthma’s been really bad. I’ve not been at school and not been able to spend time with my mates. 2 weeks ago I had a really bad asthma attack and I was admitted into hospital. The Nurses and Doctors made me feel so much better and I went home after 2 days. Before I went home the nurse gave me a care plan and told my Mum to take me to the GP in a couple of days to get my asthma reviewed.

My Mum didn’t get chance to take me to the GP. I think she forgot. She’s been really stressed lately and has been shouting at us all a lot more. Especially at my sister, who has been really down again and spending loads of time in her bedroom. And my Mum’s really worried about my brother who isn’t talking yet.

And now I’m back in hospital again following another asthma attack. This time it was really bad. I was at school and my teacher panicked and didn’t know what to do. My friend who also has asthma had to help me. And I was brought to hospital in an ambulance.

The Doctor came to speak with me and my Mum today. She asked if she could speak about me at some meeting where lots of professionals get together and talk about children and their families at GP practices.

My Mum was really upset during the meeting with the Doctor and she told the Doctor about how stressed she’s been feeling trying to cope with my asthma, my sisters moods and my younger brother’s delay in speaking. My Mum agreed for the Doctor to speak about us at the meeting.

I think the meeting was called a paediatric integrated care network…..

**TOM’S STORY 6 WEEKS AFTER THE NETWORK MEETING**

It’s been 6 weeks since I was in hospital. Thankfully I haven’t been back again. I’m feeling so much better. 2 days after hospital I went to see a nurse at the GP practice who spent ages talking about my asthma and making sure I knew how to take my inhalers.

I’ve started back at school and have been to see the school nurse. She did a new school care plan that all the teachers know about. I’m even doing sports and going out with my mates.

A lovely woman has visited us a couple of times from Families First. She’s been helping to make my Mum feel better and she’s not shouting at us anymore, well apart from when I don’t do my homework. Mum went to see the GP and she’s trying to stop smoking.

Mum’s no longer feeling stressed about my brothers speaking, after taking him to, I think she said a centre for children. And he’s going to start nursery next month. My sister seems a bit happier too, she’s started to spend time downstairs watching TV with us.

All this after being talked about at that meeting with loads of professionals. That’s awesome.