



# Grief Matters for Children

Around 1 in 29 children and young people in school today know what it's like when a parent, brother or sister dies – because it's happened to them. Others have faced the death of someone else important such as a grandparent or teacher, and about 1 in 16 have had a friend who has died.

The death of someone close brings lots of changes and challenges, and can be very hard to deal with. Some children get excellent help from their family, friends, schools and support services, but others don't get the support they want or need.

The Childhood Bereavement Network brings together people who work with children and young people when someone special has died. Our Grief Matters for Children campaign wants to make sure that all bereaved children, young people and their families can access high quality support easily, wherever they live and however their special person has died.

## Our call to action...

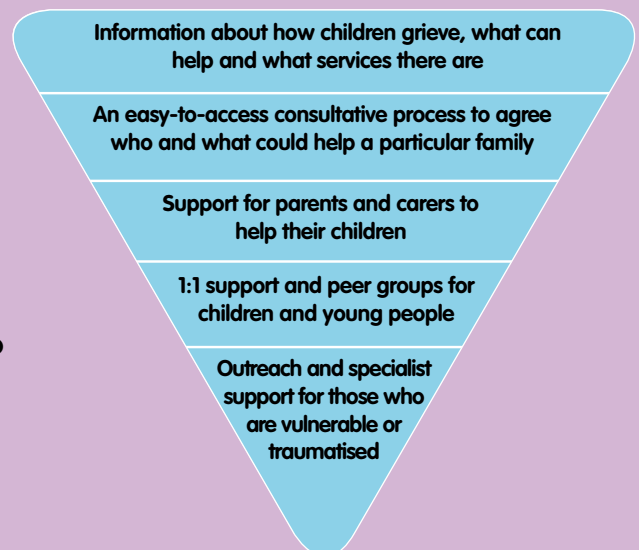
**In each local area, the local authority and primary care trust should work with other services to make sure:**

- they know how many children and young people have been bereaved of a parent or carer, brother or sister that year, and what services they need
- all children, young people and their families can access high quality services before and after the death of someone close
- adults who work with children and young people get training and support to understand how they might help someone who has been bereaved and where to find extra support.

**To play their part, each school should have:**

- sensitive and flexible people and systems that provide support and information for pupils and staff when someone has died
- opportunities to learn about death and bereavement as part of life.

Figure 1: What good provision for bereaved children looks like



## ...how is your local area responding?