<u>"Families First is supporting 1000s of</u> <u>Welsh families to improve their lives"</u> <u>– Huw Irranca-Davies</u>

Families First is an early intervention and prevention programme, aimed at improving outcomes for children, young people and families. It is designed to reduce the numbers of families developing more complex needs and requiring more intensive and costly interventions at a later date.

Families First is part of a wide package of measures the Welsh Government has put in place to support parents and families.

The most recent data available show that between April 2015 and March 2017:

- 77% 12,665 of parents have benefited from a parenting intervention.
- 80% 12,567 of parents improved their ability to support their child's learning and development needs.
- 78% 43,111 of families improved their emotional/mental well-being.
- 73% 23,395 of families have reported improved family dynamics.

Later today, the Minister will visit a Families First project in Bangor to see for himself the work they do to support families.

Huw Irranca-Davies said:

"The Welsh Government has made a firm commitment to making a real difference to our youngest children, with a focus on improving outcomes for children and young people through early intervention and prevention.

"Families First puts a team of highly specialised staff around the family, and encourages families to be involved in the identification of issues and the resolution of those issues, recognising the strengths and resources within the family.

"I'm delighted to see literally tens of thousands of families have received targeted support from our Families First teams right across Wales, which in many cases, has proved to be absolutely life-changing."