



INFORMATION SHARING GUIDELINES

for promoting safety and
wellbeing

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Background....

- Layton Report, Keeping Them Safe, National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children
- the ISG for promoting the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and their families endorsed by Cabinet in 2008
- an overarching state wide policy framework
- replaced multiple agreements



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the new ISG for promoting safety and wellbeing.....

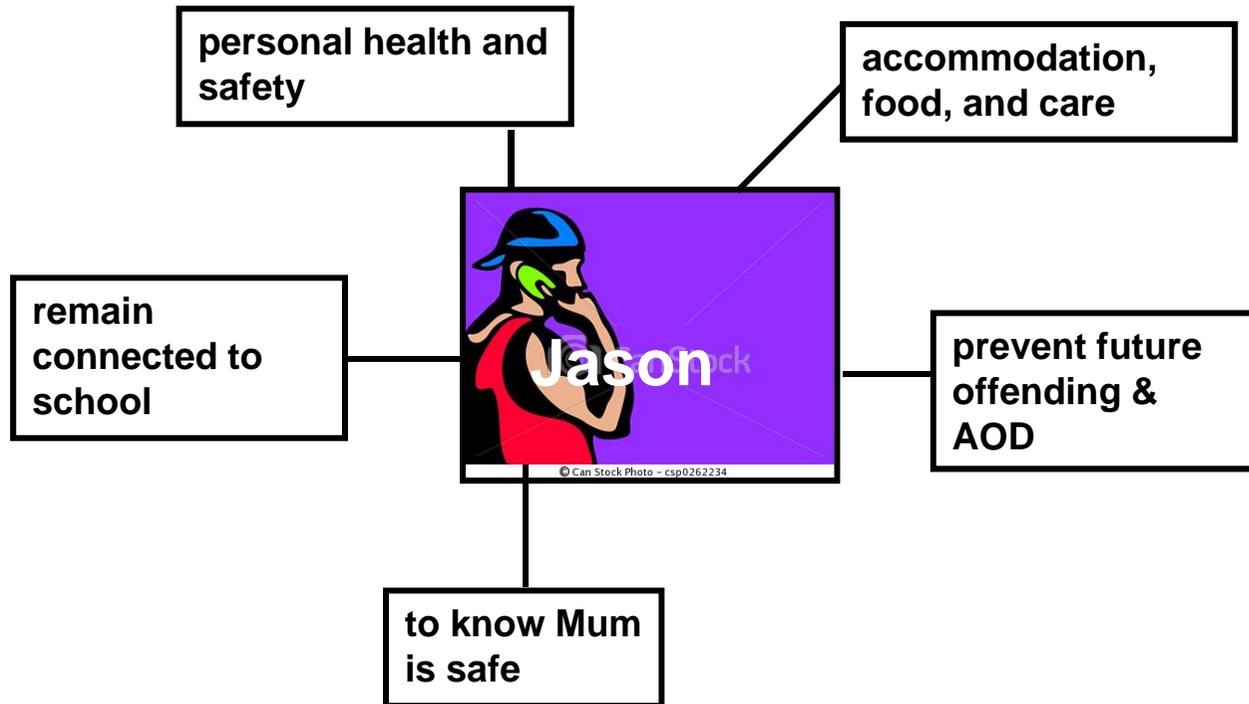
- Cabinet decision 2013 to broaden scope and relocate to OSA
- applies to both adult and children's services
- promotes safety and wellbeing and privacy
- aligned with state and commonwealth privacy reform
- evidence based risk assessment for disclosure without consent



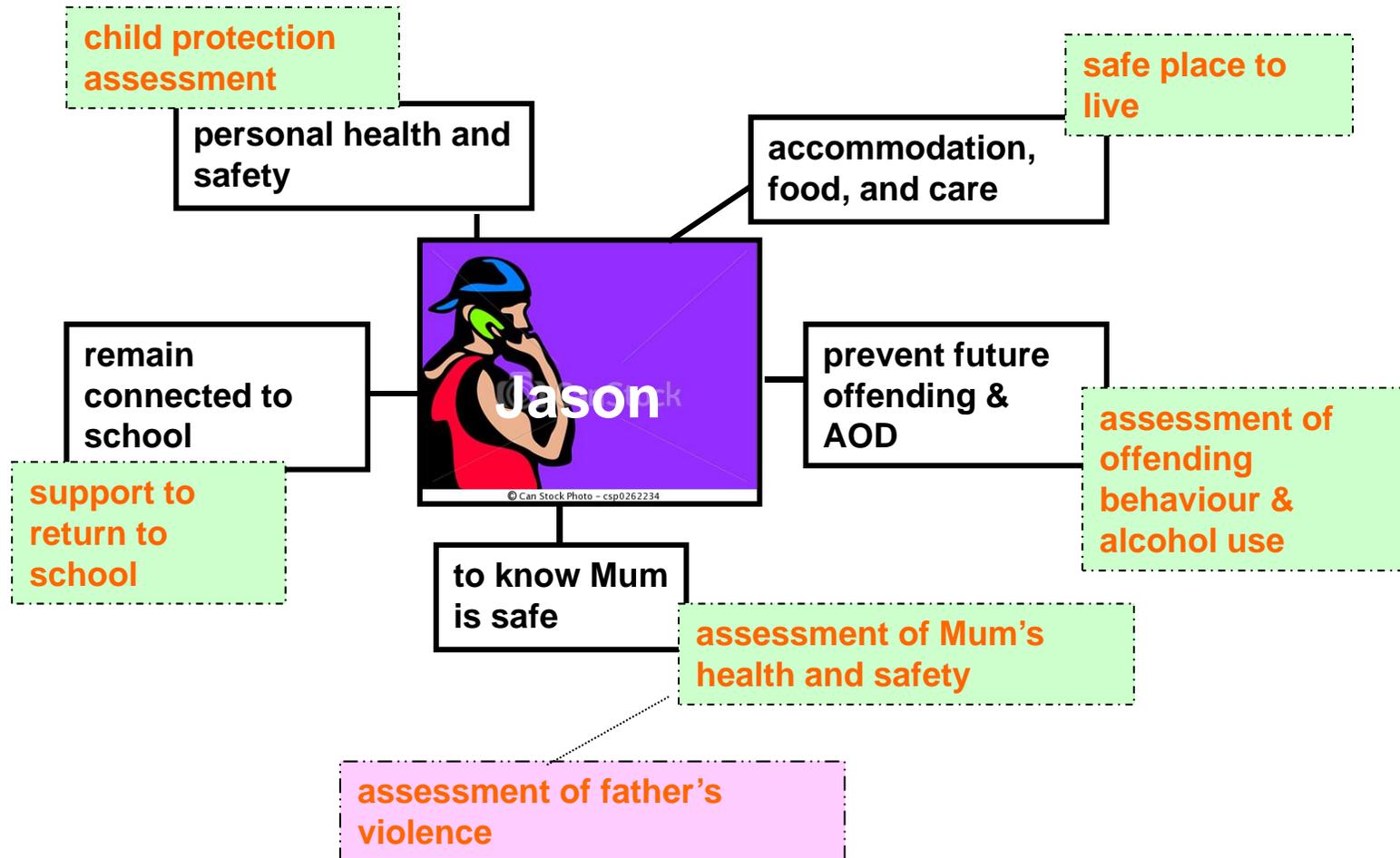
case study.....

- Jason, aged 15, was picked up by the police for a shoplifting offence. The shop owner does not wish to press charges but police took Jason to the station because of concern over his condition: he is thin, smells of alcohol and tells them he has slept rough overnight.
- He has several bruises and his arms also show signs of what looks like self-harm.
- Jason said he does not want to go home because of his father's increasing violence towards him and his mother. His mother has been crying a lot, spending days in bed. There has been very little food in the house, his mother has not cooked anything for weeks.
- Jason is always hungry and has also started missing school...

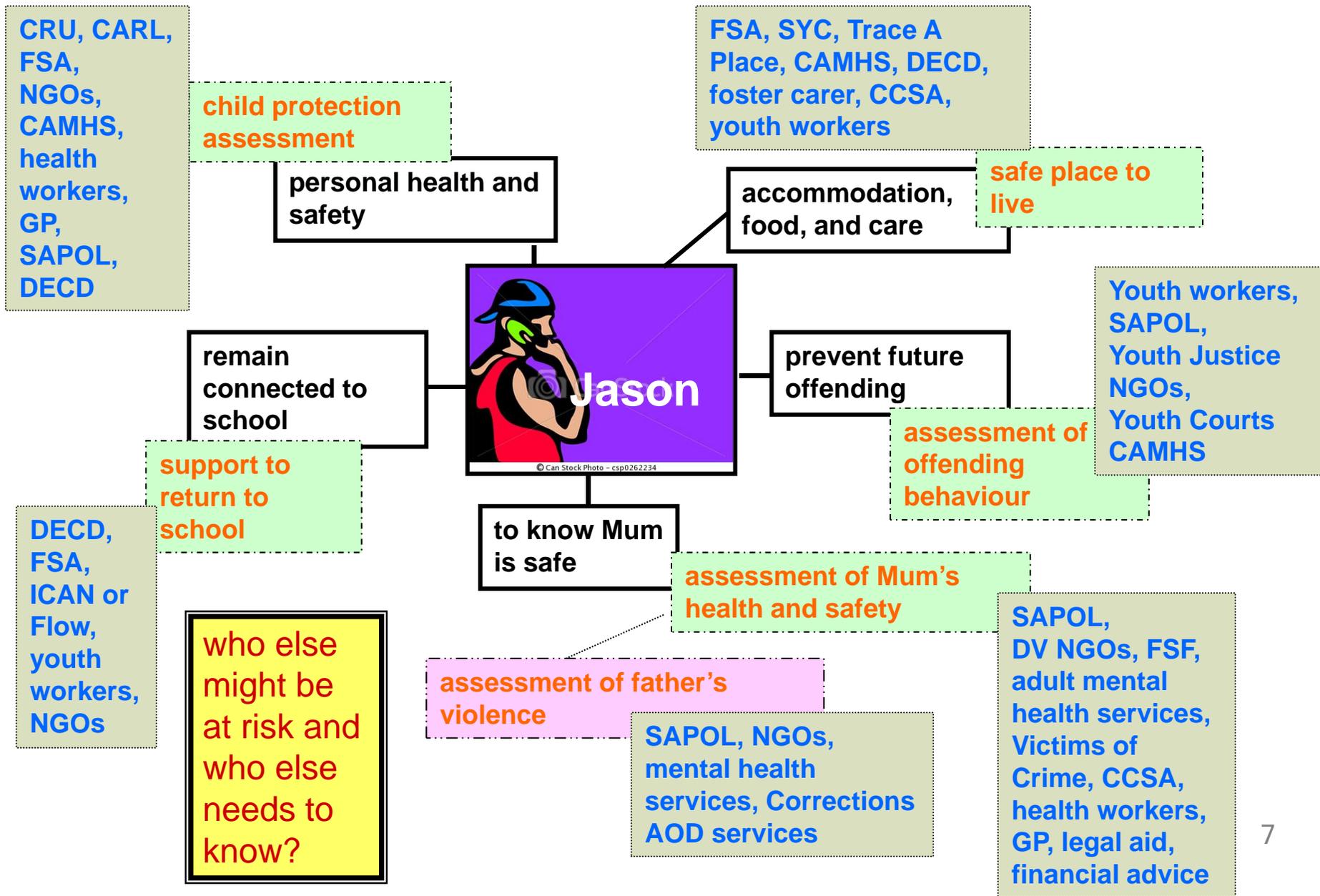
safety and wellbeing.....



what help does he need.....



who might be involved.....





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if no one shares information, consider.....

- what might the consequences be for Jason and others
- how effective are individual agency risk assessments going to be
- how well can services be coordinated for all parties
- will the cycle be broken



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how the ISG can help.....

- gathering information is critical for good risk assessment
- risk assessment is key to effective referral, planning and case management
- promotes multi disciplinary and interagency collaboration and early intervention
- confident all organisations using the same process







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The need for information sharing.....

- Six children who were starved and abused in Adelaide's "house of horrors" were virtually unknown to South Australian authorities.
- Ms Rankine said no one government staff member or agency "had the full picture of information or knew that the six children were in the house".
- But agencies did have "very small amounts of information" about the large household the children moved into in 2008, the head of the Child Death and Serious Injury Review Committee, Deej Eszenyi, said.
- If those government departments had shared the information, "there was a possibility that the house might have been entered before the crimes against these children occurred", she said.



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A Foot in the Door and the ISG....

- strong interagency framework
- opportunities for improved early intervention, referrals, coordination and case management
- promotes safety and wellbeing and privacy
- evidence based risk assessment
- act with consent and without consent - without consent supported by legislative provisions



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