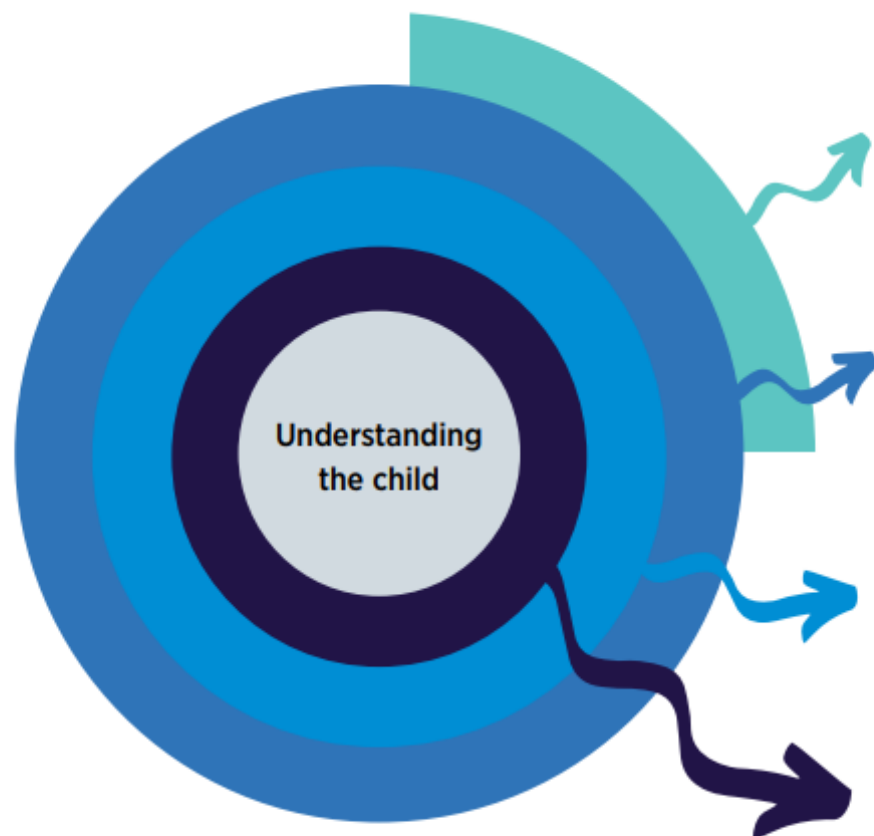


# Parent Participation Model and Framework

## Understanding the child: Using the expertise of professionals, parents, and children



### Practitioner's professional expertise in a family's life

This is highly specialised and critical to an intervention that supports child wellbeing and safety. Professional expertise is part of the equation, but it is not the whole picture. Practitioners need the lived expertise of parents as well as the child, so they can best understand the risks and protective factors that may be present.

### Parent's expertise in their own life and their family

Parents are the greatest protective factor available to their child. Even when there are concerns about risk, parents still have the expertise in their own lives and their family that is necessary to inform the practitioner's professional assessment.

### Parent's expertise in their child's life\*

Parents have expertise in their child's life that can help to contribute to the full picture. They can also be an advocate and facilitator for their child's voice to be heard.

\* Especially in the child's first 1000 days

### Child's expertise in their own life

The child is the expert in their own life. The safe inclusion of their voice and sharing of their experience is an important part of this process.

This graphic shows how we recommend understanding the “weight” of expertise in a professional engagement with families. The inclusion of this combined expertise has the greatest potential for influence and value. The expertise of each person within this system should be included in the partnership between families and professionals, and this can be facilitated by an ongoing and open exchange of information and deep listening. This approach also offers a more holistic assessment of families which requires more than the traditionally risk-averse lens used by practitioners.