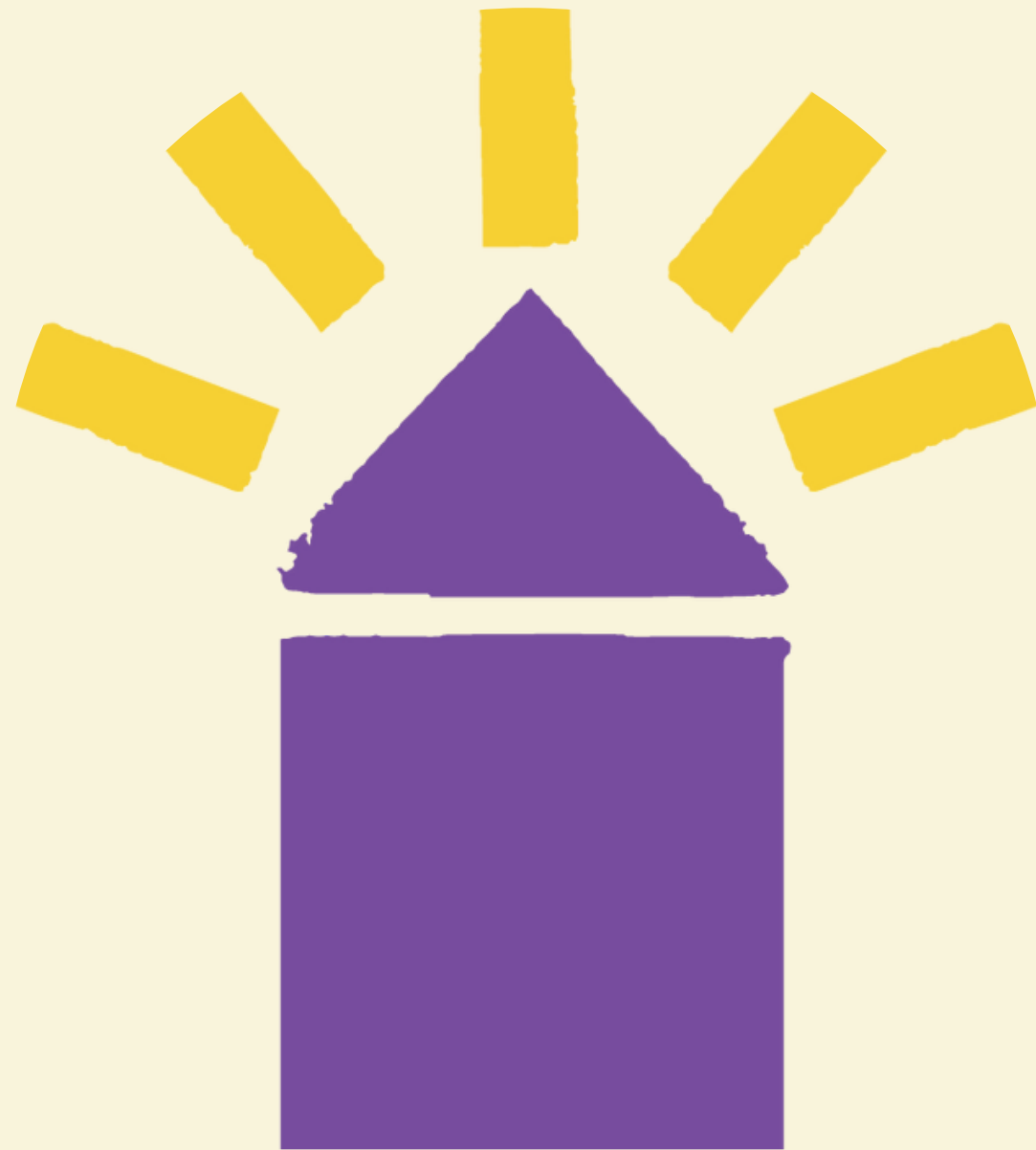


Talking about.... being your child's advocate,
privacy + concealment, relationships,
support & affirmation



CARING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH INTERSEX VARIATIONS

Gonadal dysgenesis (partial & complete), Partial Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (PAIS), Turner Syndrome, Clitoromegaly (large clitoris), Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (AIS), Ovo-testes (formerly called "true hermaphroditism"), Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH), 5-alpha reductase deficiency, Aphallia, 5-alpha reductase deficiency, Klinefelter Syndrome, Micropenis, Swyer Syndrome, Hypospadias, MRKH (Mullerian agenesis; vaginal agenesis; (congenital absence of vagina)



What is intersex?

Intersex is an umbrella term that describes those who have innate *variations in their sex characteristics. Sex characteristics include a person's chromosomes, genitals, reproductive systems, gonads, hormone sensitivity and production. Variations then can be considered as outside of 'normal' male and female bodies.

*We choose to use the term 'variations' rather than 'condition' or disorder or defect'

66 SO, IF INTERSEX IS A
NATURAL
OCCURRENCE....WHAT
THEN IS "NORMAL"? 99

As parents & caregivers, you have the unique opportunity to illustrate the world for your tamariki. You can create a "new normal" for all members of your whānau by providing resources and education to up-skill those around you and support your child.

BEING YOUR CHILD'S ADVOCATE IN HEALTH

We all deserve supportive healthcare services.

Take your time before making decisions*

Ask questions! And ask for a second opinion if you aren't given a good enough answer.

Seek a range of perspectives.
Connect with other parents with a child with a VSC.
Reach out to support organisations and connect with intersex adults.





CONCEALMENT

The medical model is based on a concealment approach.

This approach can have harmful impacts on the growth and development of young people, with or without surgical interventions.



PRIVACY

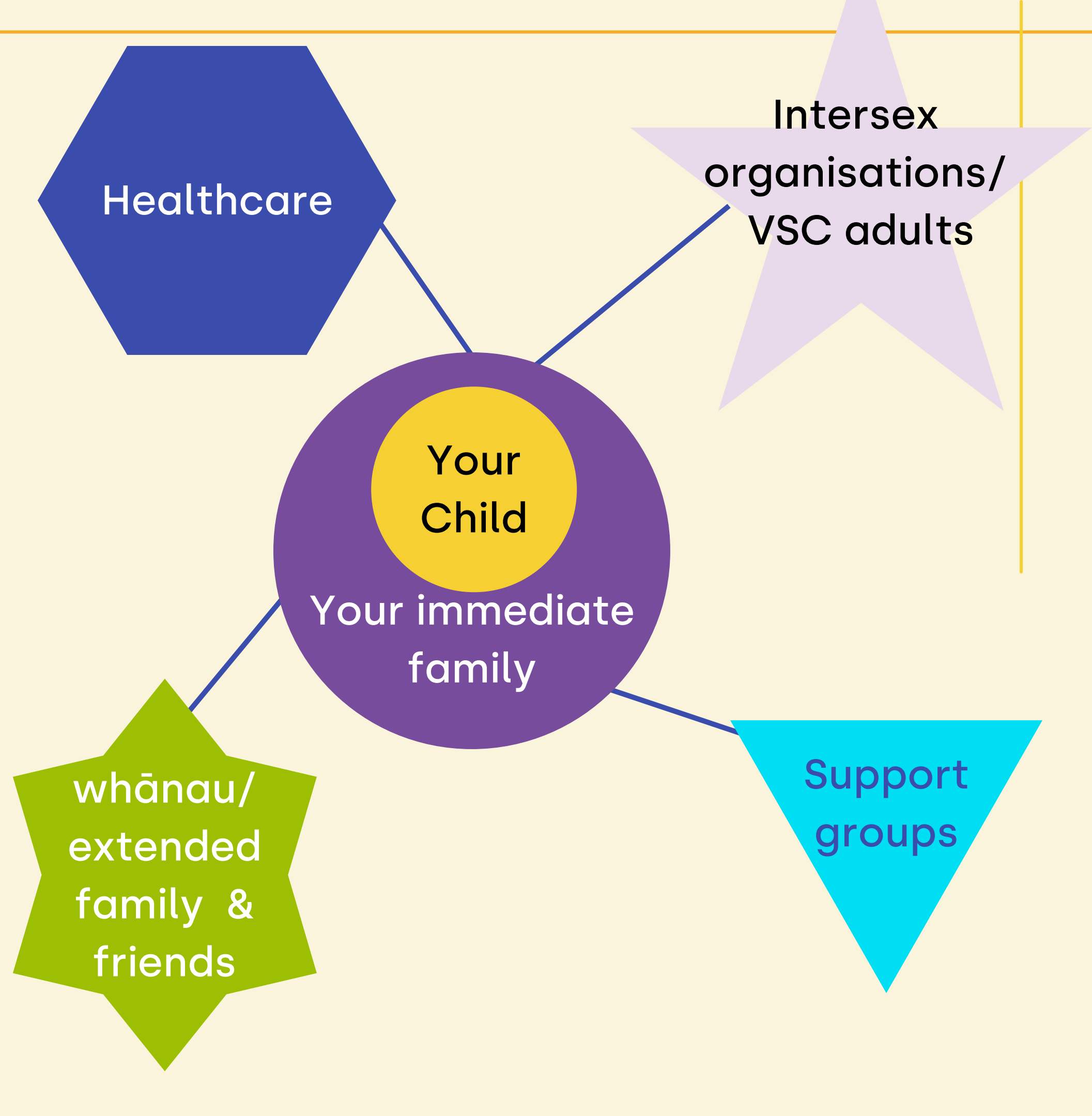
Children deserve privacy as much as adults. But how do we untangle the differences of privacy from shame & secrecy?

Communication is key. Talk to your tamariki in a way that works for them.

RELATIONSHIPS & COMMUNICATION



THINK OF THE TERMINOLOGY YOU USE AS A TOOL. DIFFERENT TERMS CAN CONNECT US TO EACH OTHER!





SUPPORT

Parents and caregivers, seek to balance your needs, with the needs of your child. These will change and evolve over time.



AFFIRMATION



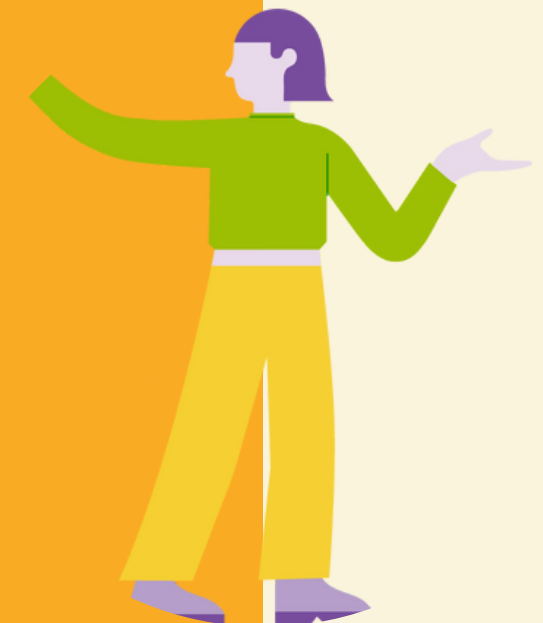
**"Intersex is
taonga"**

**"All our bodies are
different, and
special"**

**""You are perfect
just as you are"**

**All bodies are
beautiful!"**

"Different is cool"



WANT TO CONNECT?

info@intersexaotearoa.org

