

A guide for...

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



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1 What is an Initial Child Protection Conference (meeting)?

A Child Protection Conference (meeting) is when some of the people who know you best, like your family, your teachers and your social worker get together at a meeting to talk about what is going well for you, what we are worried about and how to keep you safe. This will help us to come up with special rules and actions to keep you safe, these rules and actions are called a Child Protection Plan.

2 Who will be at a Child Protection Conference?

The people at the meeting are the people who know you best such as your family, teachers, and social worker; and some other people such as the Police. There will also be a special person called a Chairperson at the meeting who is there to make sure that everyone's has the chance to share their thoughts and that the right decisions are made to keep you safe. If you'd like to talk to this person, speak to your social worker and they will arrange this for you.

3 Can I go to the Conference (meeting)?

We would all like to know what you think about how things are for you. We would like you to help us make decisions about how to keep you safe. We understand that sometimes it can be difficult to talk about our worries. There are lots of ways for you to share your thoughts. Some of these are:

- Coming to talk to us all at the meeting
- Drawing pictures
- Writing your thoughts down on paper or on an electronic device
- Talking to a trusted adult

You can talk to your family, teachers or social worker about how you'd like to share what's going on for you. If none of these feel right for you, you can talk to your social worker, teacher, or a member of your family.

4

What will happen at the Conference?

The Chairperson will ask everyone at the Conference to say who they are and why they are at the meeting. They will talk about what they are worried about, what is working well and what needs to change. They will also talk about what it is like to be a child in your family.

They will decide whether you need a Child Protection Plan. The Child Protection plan makes sure that all the people working with you and your family keep you safe.

The important thing for you to know is that everyone in the meeting knows about your Child Protection plan so you can talk to your parents, your social worker or your teachers if you are worried or need some help.

5

Child Protection Review Conference

To make sure everyone is doing the things they agreed to and to make sure you are safe we hold review meetings. The first review will happen no later than 3 months after the initial conference. After the first review there will be review meeting every 6 months.





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