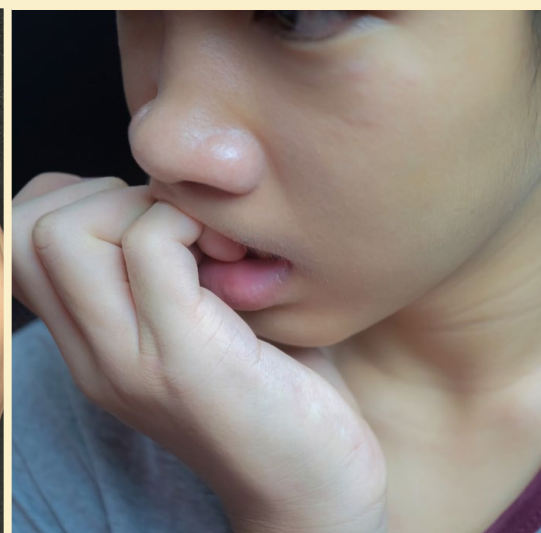


Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership

My Child Protection Conference



Keeping Children Safe

A Child Protection Conference is being held as there are some worries about your safety and we want to understand the worries and what's working well in your family. This will help us all work together to keep you safe in the future.

This leaflet is to help you understand what happens at a Child Protection Conference.

How can I give me views at the Child Protection Conference?

It is important that the people at the conference know about any worries that you might have, what you think is good about your family, what you think needs to happen so that you feel safe and who you think might be good people to help make sure this happens.

Your social worker will help you to decide whether you want to go to the conference or whether you want someone else to tell the conference what you think.

The person who leads the conference is called the Conference Chair and they will help you to feel involved in the meeting. They can do this in different ways:

You can come along to the conference on the day it happens.

You can attend another smaller meeting with your social worker and Conference Chair.

The Conference Chair can talk to you before the meeting.

Your social worker will talk with you to find out any worries you have and what's working well at home and they will be able to share what you think at the conference if you don't feel able to attend.

If you and your parents agree then you can be referred to an advocacy service called NYAS where you can have a worker who will support you and share what you think at the conference.

You could attend by video if you don't want to come in person to the meeting.

You can write or draw things for the Conference Chair to share at the conference to let us know what you think.

We have an app called Mind of My Own and you can send your views to the Conference Chair on the app.

As you can see there are lots of ways you can be involved in the conference and it's very

important that you are, as this will help is to understand what life is like for you, what you think about things and how best to keep you safe.

Who else will be at the conference?

Your parents or carers will be invited to the conference along with some other people who are important to you, your parents or your carers. We invite the people who know you best and who you are close to, so that we can come up with a plan what works for you and your family to keep you safe.

Other people who are there will be people like your teacher, school nurse and your social worker who will always be there.

Some people who go to the conference, such as the police, may not know your family but they are there because it is their job to help keep children safe.

What happens at a Child Protection Conference?

Before the conference starts you will meet the Conference Chair who is the person who leads the conference. Their job is to make sure everyone gets a chance to share what they think, including you, and they support everyone to work out whether you need a Child Protection Plan to keep you safe, including you and support everyone to consider whether you need a child protection plan to keep you safe. and what the people most important to you think the worries are, as well as what is working well in your family.

During the conference the Conference Chair will want to know what you think, what your parents or carers think and what think the worries are and also what's working well in your family. You will all be part of creating the plan to keep you safe. Your social worker should have already spent time with you and your family before the conference agreeing the worries and what's working well with you and making sure you were part of making the plan.

The other people at the conference will talk about their worries, what is going well and what they think needs to happen to make sure you are safe.

At the end of the conference the Conference Chair will ask everyone a Scaling Question. This is a question which helps everyone to think about how things are going at the moment and

what we still need to do so that life gets better for you. Imagine a line from 0 to 10, where 10 is we know that you are being kept safe and 0 is we are really worried about you. The Conference Chair will ask everyone to give a number between 10 and 0 so we can work out how well you are being kept safe and what we need to do next.

We would really like you to answer this question if you want to as your views are very important to us, but professionals like your social worker will tell us clearly within their answers whether they think you need a Child Protection Plan to keep you safe. This is their decision.

The plan to keep you safe will have already been agreed by everyone earlier in the meeting. It will say what your parents / carers and important people will do to keep you safe and what support you and your family will have from other people, like your social worker, teacher or school nurse. This plan can change over time and we will work with you, your parents and your important people to strengthen and test this plan out so that we know it works to keep you safe.

What is Child Protection Plan?

When people are really worried about your safety or how well you are being cared for, the plan that you, your parents and other important people create is called a Child Protection Plan. This means that the Conference Chair will stay involved and there will be another big meeting called a Review Child Protection Conference. There will be smaller meetings in between to check that people are doing what they say they will do to keep you safe and to make any changes to the plan so that it works for you and your family. You will see your social worker at least every 2 weeks and you can talk with them about how things are going, any worries that you have and what is going well.