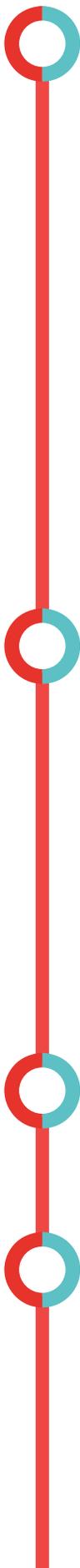


What is a Child Protection Conference?

Stronger families,
safer children





There will be a meeting called a Child Protection Conference happening for you soon.

A Child Protection Conference is a meeting to talk about worries about your safety and welfare. The meeting will look at actions and plans to reduce any worries and build upon what is already going well.

These are some of the people who may be at the meeting:

- Parents/carers,
- Social worker,
- Doctor,
- Teacher,
- Police officer.

This meeting will be led by a Child Protection Conference chairperson to help with decision making.

Can I go to my Child Protection Conference?

You have a right to be heard and taken seriously and to have your views and feelings listened to. To help with decisions made at this meeting you can let people know about what is worrying you or what is going well for you. You can do this in different ways :

- 1 Attend part of the meeting yourself either independently or with an advocate** (An advocate can support you and help you to share your thoughts and feelings at the Child Protection Conference)
- 2 Don't attend the meeting but instead ask an adult** (this could be an advocate, social worker, trusted adult) **to attend the meeting on your behalf**
- 3 Speak to the Child Protection Conference chairperson.**

What you say is very important.

If adults believe that it is not in your best interest to attend the Child Protection Conference, your social worker will tell you about why this has been decided and provide you with other ways to share your views.

Who is a child protection chair?

The chairperson is the person leading the meeting and will make sure that everyone who attends is able to share their views about what they are worried about, what is going well and what needs to change. The meeting will form a list of actions called a plan. This plan will identify what is needed to make things safer or better for you.

Professionals attending the meeting will then make a decision about whether this plan should be a child protection plan.



What is a child protection plan?

This plan will identify things that need to change in order to make you safer. It says who will do what and by when and these people (including your parents) will meet up regularly as a core group to make sure everyone is doing what they should be...including you!



Who can I talk to if I don't understand?

- You can talk to your social worker,
- You can ask to talk directly to the child protection chairperson,
- You can request an advocate to speak to and they can attend the Child Protection Conference with or for you.



What happens next?

The core group will meet every 4-6 weeks to talk about how things are going and to review the plan and what people are doing. You can speak to your social worker if you want to attend part of this meeting so that you can share your views.



When does the child protection plan end?

The child protection plan will continue for as long as people believe you need protecting. The plan is usually reviewed three months after the first Child Protection Conference and then six monthly until it is agreed that life is safer and better for you.

Your social worker will help you to understand what is going on. We know it can be a scary process, but please do remember that there are always people you can talk to. You have a right to ask what is going on and it is our job to help you understand.



Would you like to come to your meeting?

 YES NO

Would you like an advocate to help you say what you want to say?

 YES NO



These things make me happy and smile...

Blank writing area for happy thoughts.



These things make me worried / sad / cry / angry....

Blank writing area for negative thoughts.



What would I like to change? What would I like to happen?

Blank writing area for change and future thoughts.



Who can help?



On a scale of 0-10, with 10 being the best and 0 being the worst how good / happy do you feel at.....

School?



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10



Comment:

Home?



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10



Comment:

Anywhere else.....?



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10



Comment:



Contact details and useful telephone numbers

My social worker's name is:

He / She can be contacted on:

My Child Protection Conference chairperson's name is:

He / She can be contacted on:

If I want to speak to a social worker after 5pm or at the weekend, I can call **03000 411111** ChildLine – **0800 1111**

A free 24-hour counselling service for children and young people up to their 19th birthday in the UK provided by the NSPCC.

Customer Care – **03000 410 304** or **cscomplaints@kent.gov.uk**

If you are unhappy or want to tell us something that your social worker has done well, please contact us.

