



## **Children and Young People Participation Process – Child Protection**

**There is a Presumption that all Children and Young People will in some way participate in all Child Protection Conferences.**

Participation may be through one or more ways.

### **Attendance in Person:**

- All children and young people who attend **MUST** be prepared by the Social Worker or their Advocate before the meeting.
- All children and young people who attend **MUST** be accompanied by an advocate who will come into the meeting with them and leave with them.
- Before a decision is taken for a child to attend the decision **MUST** be discussed with the Conference Chair prior.

### **Representative by Advocate:**

- An Advocate is someone who can represent the views of the child or young person at the meeting in a fair and unbiased way. They should **NOT** have any other role in the meeting.

### **Submission of a Wishes and Feelings Form:**

- Social workers will be e-mailed a copy of the wishes and feeling worksheet when the conference is agreed.
- Social workers should print this worksheet off and complete it with the child or young person as part of their preparation for the meeting, whether they are going to attend the meeting or not.
- Social workers should return the completed worksheet to Eastmead in time for the meeting taking place.

### **Submission of other written information, drawings, audio:**

- Children and young people can present any appropriate information to the meeting or Child Protection Manager to ensure their wishes and feelings are understood by the meeting. This should be supported and facilitated by the Social Worker and or any other professional working with the child, at any point before the meeting takes place.

# Participation of Children and Young People in the Child Protection Conference Process

