

# Date and time of the conference

Date: .....

Time: .....

Venue: .....

# What can I do if I am not happy with the conference

If you are unhappy with any part of the conference you can talk to the person who chaired the conference.

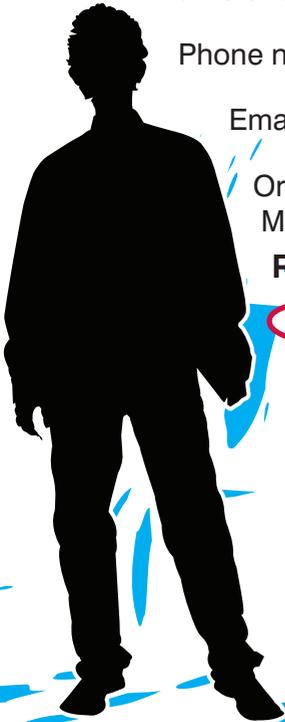
Name of Chairperson: .....

Phone number: .....

Email: .....

Or make an appeal to the Directorate Safeguarding Manager within 21 days of the conference being held.

**Po Box 61. County Hall, Preston PR1 8RJ**



For more information  
you can speak to your  
social worker or  
the chairperson

If you need this information in another language we will arrange a translation. Information can also be made available in an easy read format for people who have a learning disability and large braille or audiotape.

# Child Protection Conferences

## Information for Young People



# What is a Child Protection Conference?

It is a meeting held by Lancashire Children's Social Care when someone is concerned that you may have been harmed

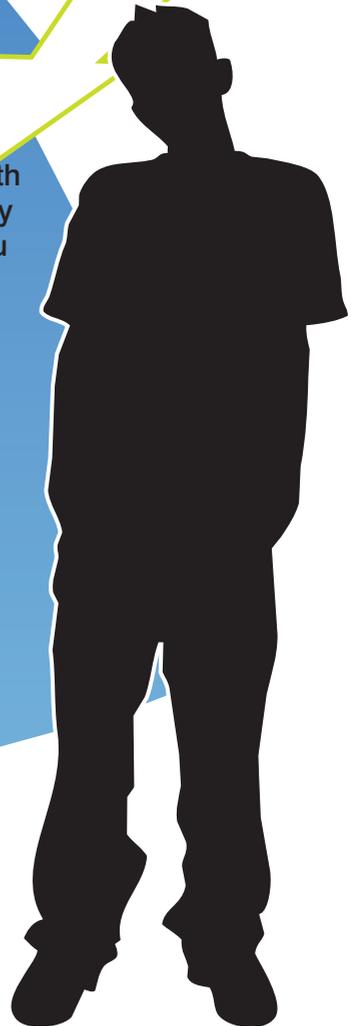
## What is the conference for?

The meeting is held to get people together from different agencies eg. the police, health and schools, to discuss if you or your family need some help so they can make sure you are safe from harm in the future.

## Can I go to the conference?

Yes, you can if you want to and are old enough to join in. This is usually when you are 10 or over.

After talking with you and your parents, the social worker will decide if it is in your best interests to attend part of the meeting. You may be asked to leave if confidential information is being discussed about other people.



# Attending the conference

“Take someone who’s not part of the meeting to support you”

“We won’t use weird words so you can understand”

“Write down what you want to say beforehand as you might forget when you’re there”

“We’ll tell you where the toilets are and where you can get a drink”

“We will remind you that you don’t have to go to the meeting”

“I take a booklet round with me for a couple of weeks before the meeting and write stuff in it that I want to say at the meeting”

“Take something to look at or do if you get bored or need to leave the meeting”

“Tell your supporter if there is anyone you are frightened to say things in front of”

“Decide a signal to tell your supporter you want to say something or leave the meeting”

# Who will be at the conference?

You will already know some of the people at the conference, such as your social worker and someone from your school

There is normally about 10 people at the meeting, including your parents/carers

Some people will be invited who you may not know because they have an important job in protecting children

Ask your social worker if you want to know exactly who is invited to the meeting

The chairperson will make sure that you and everyone else has a chance to speak

Someone will be there to take notes of the meeting so that everyone remembers what's been agreed

## How can I tell everyone what I think?

*Your views are very important, whether you go to the conference or not!*



The people at the conference have to consider your wishes and feelings.

Your social worker will ask you what you think and will include your wishes and feelings in their report.

There are a number of ways you can give your views:

- Speak to your social worker.
- Write down or draw what you have been thinking and what you want to say.
- Ask your social worker if you can record your views.
- Talk to the chairperson before the meeting to decide how you want to give your views.
- You can give your views to another person who is attending the conference.

## What can the conference decide?

The conference will decide if there needs to be a Child Protection Plan to protect you and keep you safe.

Information from the meeting will only be shared with people who will help keep you safe.

The illustration shows two black silhouettes against a green and white background. On the left is a standing man, and on the right is a person sitting in a wheelchair. A white speech bubble with a tail pointing to the person in the wheelchair contains the text: "Everything that is said at the meeting is confidential".

Everything that is  
said at the meeting  
is confidential

# What if I need help to take part in the conference?

*You can have an adult you trust to come along to support you or they can go instead of you*

**If you have any speech, hearing or reading difficulties, your social worker will make sure you get the support you need.**

If your first language is not English, your social worker can arrange for an Interpreter to come to the meeting.

## **Important Words Explained:**

### **Chairperson**

The person who manages the meeting and makes sure people stick to the subject and keep to time.

### **Agenda**

A list of subjects to talk about at the meeting.

### **Child Protection Plan**

A list of things people agree to do to help keep a child or young person safe.

### **Advocate**

A person who is independent and can speak for you. They can help plan what you want to say, and make your views known at the meeting.

