

7. WHAT IS A CHILD IN NEED PLAN?

If a Child Protection conference decides that there are no serious risk to your child but you and your family still need some support, a Child in Need Plan could be put in place. This will say what support and actions might be needed.

8. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CHILD/ CHILDREN ARE MADE SUBJECT TO A CHILD PROTECTION PLAN?

It is usual that the core group made up of your family and professionals involved – will meet together within 10 days of the Initial Conference in order to set out the details in the plan, called a Core Group.

Your child's situation will be looked at regularly at further child protection conferences and core group meetings. Conferences are held within three months of the initial conference, then within every six months.

9. WHAT IF I AM NOT HAPPY ABOUT THE PLAN? HOW CAN I COMPLAIN?

If you are unhappy about anything that has been done or said to you, we have a complaints leaflet that you can fill in so we can listen to your complaint and respond. You are also able to seek independent legal advice.

Contact

**First Contact and Out Of Hours:
01332 641172**

**Emergencies:
101 (non-emergency)
or 999 (emergency)**

**Further Information, Complaints
and Complaints:
www.derbyscb.org.uk**

How Child Protection Conferences
work to protect children

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



1. INFORMATION FOR PARENTS ABOUT A CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCE.

A Child Protection Conference is a meeting where parents and professionals meet to share information about:

- What they are worried about.
- What things are/have worked well for you and your family.
- What needs to be looked at to ensure your safety.

2. WHO ATTENDS THE CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCE?

You - your views are really important to us and helps look at how you see things and what might help to improve things and keep your children safe.

Other professionals who know your family.

We would encourage your child (10+) to attend if they would like to. They can give their views and/ or complete a wishes and feelings form with their Social Worker or teacher.

3. CAN I BRING SOMEONE WITH ME?

You can bring a friend, relative or solicitor with you for support if you wish, but they must understand that they are not there to give an opinion unless they are asked for it. If for any reason it is not appropriate for that person to attend the conference the Chair will give you an explanation. If you need an interpreter or signer, your child's social worker will make arrangements for a suitable person to be invited.

4. WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN AT THE CONFERENCE?

The child protection conference will follow a set agenda so that everyone understands:

- The allegations, incidents, risks or concerns, things that people are worried about.
- The enquiries that have been made and what they showed. History of parenting, including what the family have done well to safeguard.
- Wishes and feelings of any children.
- The Chair will give everyone, including you, the opportunity to speak, give your point of view and to ask questions.
- There may be certain things that are confidential such as details about of any current police investigation or legal opinion. At these times you and your supporter will be asked to leave the room, normally the Chair will have explained in advance if this is likely to happen.

5. WHAT IS A CHILD PROTECTION PLAN?

If the members of the child protection conference decide that your child is at risk of harm they will start to make a child protection plan which will be SMART and will set out what is needed to make sure your child is safe and properly cared for.

The plan will say:

- What social care and all the agencies must do to help you, your child and your family.
- When things are going to be done-how progress will be reviewed.
- What you and your family can do to improve the situation.
- The Chair will make sure everyone knows what is expected of them.

6. WORKING SMART, KEEPING YOU SAFE.

If a Child Protection Plan is agreed, then the Chair will advise on what might need to go on the plan and what needs to change, the professionals at the meeting are called the "core group", they will make a SMART plan and ensure it helps to keep you safe.

(SMART stands for Specific (what do we want to change); Measureable (how will we know when we have got there); Achievable (making it possible to make progress); Realistic (goals set are manageable); Timely (small achievable tasks).