

Will I be taken away from my parents?

Being subject to a Child Protection Plan does not mean that you will be taken away from your family.

Your social worker and the other people at the conference know that your family are important to you and they are there to try and help your family to look after you safely.

What if I don't agree with the Child Protection Plan?

If you don't agree with the decisions made at the conference, or if you think you have not been listened to, you should speak to your social worker or advocate after the meeting.

Tell them what you are unhappy about and ask how they can help.

If they are not able to help you, a formal complaints procedure is in place he/she will explain how this works and what you should do next.

Useful phone numbers

If you need help or advice you can contact:

Childline – Free Phone 0800 1111

(Free and confidential advice line for children and young people available 24 hours a day.) This number will not appear on a telephone bill.

My social worker is:

Name

.....

Team

.....

Tel No

Or contact:

Children's Standards Unit,
38 Laygate Place,
South Shields
Tyne and Wear,
NE33 5RT

Tel: 0191 424 7317



CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES

Information for children and young people

www.stscb.org.uk

This leaflet explains what happens at a child protection conference. The leaflet is to be read by a child or young person involved in the Child Protection Conference process, with their social worker, advocate or supporter.

What is a Child Protection Conference?

A Child Protection Conference is a meeting about you and your family. The meeting is arranged when people, such as social workers, teachers or doctors, are worried about you, and possibly your brothers and sisters, if you have any. It may seem like the meeting is arranged very quickly, this is nothing to worry about, just that certain things have to be done at certain times.

Can I go to the Child Protection Conference?

Young people who are 12 years or over can attend the conference. You should speak to your parents/carers and your social worker about this.

If you do attend, sometimes you might only be able to stay for part of the meeting, this is because there may be things said about other people that are confidential to them.

The person in charge of the meeting or your social worker will explain this to you.

What if I don't attend the Conference?

What you have to say is important, whether or not you choose to attend the conference.

If you choose not to attend you can let people know your views by discussing how you feel and what you want, with your social worker.

Even better you can write your feelings down and this can be read out at the Conference or you can send in a recorded message.

Who else will be at the Conference?

The conference is confidential, only people who need to know about it are invited eg. Social worker, teacher, health visitor.

Your parents/carers will also be invited and the Police are invited to all child protection conferences.

The conference is run by someone known as the Conference Chair. This is someone independent who has not worked with your family before but will meet with you before the conference to make sure you understand what is happening.

Other Professionals who work with your parents will also attend The police either attend, or give information to all child protection conferences.

What happens at a Child Protection Conference?

The people present will share information about the good things as well as any difficulties in your family and why they are worried about your safety and welfare.

After this they have to decide if you are at risk of harm, and what help your family might need to keep you safe in the future.

If the conference feels that you are at risk of serious harm, they will make a Child Protection Plan.

What is a Child Protection Plan?

The people at the conference need to make sure that everyone is working together to help keep you safe and well.

The Child Protection Plan is the way in which the conference writes down what needs to be done and who should do it to try and help your family to look after you safely.