



The Plan will be reviewed regularly and will end when professionals who know you agree that your child/children are safe.

The Conference may decide that you and your child/children need support, but a Child Protection Plan is not needed. If this is the case, a Child In Need Plan will be suggested instead.

What if I don't agree with any of this?

It is normal to feel worried about a Child Protection Conference or plans made there. It is very likely that you agree that it is important to make sure your child/ren are safe and their needs met.

You may not agree with how this is being done and you are entitled to complain about how the conference was run or appeal against the decision of Conference. The chairperson or your child/ren's social worker will let you know how you can do this.

For any questions about the Child Protection Conference, please contact your child/ren's social worker or the conference chairperson.



Safeguarding Quality Assurance Service
Meeting Suite,
William Knibb Centre,
Alfred Street,
Kettering,
Northants, NN16 0SW
Email: sgas@nctrust.co.uk



Other useful contacts:
Citizens Advice Bureau
Tel: 03444 111 444
<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Family Lives (formerly Parentline Plus)
Tel: 01623 494320
<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

Family Rights Group
Tel: 0808 801 0366
<https://www.frg.org.uk/>

This leaflet can be made available in large print, Braille, or in other languages on request.



Northamptonshire Children's Trust

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Child Protection Conference

A guide for parents and carers



What is a Child Protection Conference?

It is a meeting to consider your family's circumstances and your child or children's needs. It is being held because professionals have worries about the safety of children in your home.

The Conference will share information about the concerns, discuss how serious the risks are and what kind of support is needed to keep your child/ren safe.

Professionals such as your child/ren's social worker, a teacher or health visitor who attend the meeting, will be asked to write a report and reports will be shared at the meeting. The meeting is confidential and only people who need to know will attend and be given reports.

The meeting will discuss:

- What people are worried about regarding the safety of your child
- What is going well for you and your family
- What needs to be done, by whom to keep your children safe in the future

The meeting will be led by an independent chairperson who will meet with you beforehand to make sure you know what will happen and how you can say what you want to say. Someone will take notes, and these will be sent to you and everyone else who attends.

Who will be at the meeting?

Parents or carers usually attend Conferences. Sometimes the chairperson will have a reason why a parent or carer should not attend, or might ask you to leave for a short time.

Children/young people (age 12+) sometimes attend. This should be discussed with the social worker in advance.

Professionals such as the social worker and other professionals, such as a teacher or health visitor will attend, and a police officer always attends the first Conference.

Can I bring someone with me?

You can bring one friend, relative or solicitor to give you support. The chairperson will talk with you both about their role in the meeting.

How will my views be heard?

Your views are an important part of the meeting and you will have a chance to tell the meeting what you think. If you need one, we can arrange an interpreter or signer.

If you are not able to attend, you can ask your social worker to pass your views on to the meeting, or you can email or write to the chairperson who will read out your letter.

What is a Child Protection Plan?

If the Conference agrees that your child is at risk of significant harm, and a plan is needed to protect them, they will be made the subject of a Child Protection Plan. This does not affect your legal rights as a parent or your responsibility for your child.

A Child Protection Plan is a plan of things that need to be done to make your children safer.

What are you worried about?	What's working well?	What needs to happen?
Harm - What has happened that worries us?	Safety – when harm is present, who/what happens to make sure the children aren't hurt/harmed?	Safety Goal – what do we need to see to know the children are safe?
Complicating factors – what makes things more complicating?	Strengths – what are the strengths within the family/situation?	Next Steps – What are we going to do to reach our goals?
<p>On a scale of 0-10, where 10 means there are no real concerns about the child and family and 0 means that things are so unsafe for the child, immediate action needs to be taken, where would you scale this today?</p> <p>0 _____ 10</p>		