



**CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES**  
Information for  
**Children and Young People**





This leaflet has been written to answer some of the questions children and young people have about child protection conferences.

## **What is a Child Protection Conference?**

A child protection conference is a meeting which is held because people like social workers, teachers and doctors are worried that a child or young person may not be safe.

### **Should I go to the Conference?**

You should talk to your social worker before deciding whether you want to go to the Conference.

You may bring an advocate to the Conference with you, who can speak on your behalf and put questions to the Conference if you wish. An advocate can be a friend, relative or professional. Your social worker can help you to understand what an advocate does and how to choose one.

If you decide to go to the conference, you will be able to meet the Chairperson before the conference starts. The Chairperson's job is to make sure everyone gets a chance to express their views – including you.



### **What happens if I don't attend?**

Before the conference, your social worker will talk to you to find out what you think and will pass on your views to everyone attending the conference.

Even if you don't go to the conference, you may still meet the Chairperson so that you can tell him or her what you think. It is important that the people at the conference know your views.

You might find it helpful to use the questions at the end of this leaflet to write down anything you want to ask or anything you want to say to the conference about your situation.

### **Who else goes to the Conference?**

Your parents or carers are usually invited to the conference. Other people who know you or your family are also invited, for example, your teacher. Your social worker will always be at the conference. Some people who go to conference, like the Police, might not know your family but are there because it is their job to help keep children safe.

### **What happens at a Child Protection Conference?**

The people at the conference share information about the good things in a child's family, and the difficult things. After this, they decide whether the child is in need of a Child Protection Plan.



### **What is a Child Protection Plan?**

The conference will make a decision about whether a child or young person is safe and, if necessary, make a plan to make sure the child and family get the right sort of help. The People who know the child will all work together with the family to help make things better. When things do get better, and people feel that the child or young person is safe, the conference will decide whether a Child Protection Plan is still needed.

### **Things you may like to tell the people at the Child Protection Conference**

#### **1. Do you have any worries or concerns?**

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**2. If you don't feel safe, how can this be made better?**

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**3. What do you want to happen in the future?**

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**4. Is there anything else you want the Conference to know?**

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**5. Is there anything you want to ask?**

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**Social Workers name:** .....

**Contact Number:** .....

**Address:** .....

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[www.durham-lscb.gov.uk](http://www.durham-lscb.gov.uk)

If you need this information summarised in another language or format such as Braille or talking tape, please call the number below.



**(0191) 383 3305**