WHAT IS A CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCE?

A Child Protection Conference is a meeting that takes place between parents, carers and professionals including social care, school, health, police and people involved with your family. These professionals are referred to as the multi-agencies. A Child Protection Conference is held when those professionals involved are worried about your safety or how you are being treated at home.

A Child Protection Conference is chaired by an Independent Chair person.

The Child Protection Conference will share information about you, your parents, carers and your experiences at home. It is the role of the conference to come up with a plan to help keep you safe and well.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If The Chair agrees that a Child Protection Plan is needed to try and increase your safety at home, a group of professionals will form a Core Group. This Core Group of professionals such as your teacher, social worker, health visitor / school nurse and any adults working with your parents will work with you and your parents to reduce the worries that people have. They will meet regularly and come back to a Child Protection Conference in 3/6 months to decide if the Child Protection Plan needs to continue.

Your social worker will need to see you at least every 10 working days. They will visit you at home and at school, see you by yourself and with your family.

If you have any questions please talk to a trusted adult who will be happy to support you.

Please let your social worker know who you would like to feed back to you after the conference. Its important that you know and understand the outcome.

Essex County Council

CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES

A Guide for Children & Young People



We Care Book Collection from Essex County Council

WHO ATTENDS?

All professionals who are working with or may have been involved with you and your family will be invited to attend.
This may include agencies like:

- Social Care
- Health Visitor / School Nurse
- School / Nursery / College
- Police
- GP
- Housing Provider
- Drug and Alcohol Services
- Mental Health Services

Your parents / carers or important adults in your life will also be invited to attend, like mum and dad.

If there is someone you think should be attending your meeting please tell your social worker or trusted adult.



CAN I ATTEND?

Yes, if you would like to. Your views are a really important part of the meeting, but if you are worried about attending or the adults around you don't think its in your best interests to attend, there are other ways you can share your views. You can:

- Meet with the Chair before the meeting
- Complete the conference Feedback form
- Speak with a trusted adult like your social worker, teacher or school nurse and ask them to share your views on your behalf
- Write a letter, make a video or a voice note
- Meet with an advocate, who can then attend the meeting on your behalf and share your views
- Attend all or part of your meeting

DURING THE MEETING

The Chair will make sure everyone gets to share their view and listens to what is being said.

The meeting will focus on

- What are we worried about?
- How do the worries impact you?
- What is going well for your family?
- What do we need to know more about - Grey areas
- What needs to change so everyone feels you are safer at home - The Plan

WILL CONFERENCE DECIDE WHERE I LIVE?

The conference cannot take you away from your parents/carers. The conference can only make suggestions about how everyone will work together to keep you safe and well.
If professionals and family are worried about where or who you are living with they will talk to you about decisions that might be made outside of conference. Your social worker will speak with you about your worries.