

Child Protection Conferences

Information for children and young people



What is a Child Protection Conference?

A Child Protection Conference is a meeting of people who will talk about how best to keep you safe. It is important for them to know what you think and what you want to happen.

Can I come to my meeting?

Yes, you will be able to attend some or all of the meeting. The meeting is about you and it is important people know how you feel about what is happening at home.

If you want to, you can write down what you would like to say before you get there. Your social worker or someone else you choose can help with this.

You may want to come, but feel a bit worried or upset. If so talk to your social worker, your teacher, or another adult who you can trust.

You do not have to attend if you do not want to.



Who else is going to be at my meeting?

Your parents, or the person who looks after you may be there, and those working with you or your family such as your social worker, teacher, school nurse, youth worker and the police.

Other people you have not met before could also be there. Your social worker will explain who is coming to your conference and why they have been invited to attend.

What happens at the meeting?

The people at the meeting will talk about any worries they have about you or your family. They will hear what you think about these worries and decide if there is a risk to you or any other children in your family. The people at the meeting might decide that you are not at risk of being harmed. If this happens they may still offer you and your family help and support.

If they decide you are at risk of being harmed or injured, they will plan what sort of help is best to keep you safe. This is called a Child Protection Plan.

The meeting can also recommend that the Police investigate if they think there has been a crime committed against you.

Will I have to leave home?

It is unlikely that you will have to move away from home. The people at the meeting will look at ways of keeping you safe at home.

If this has to happen, then it is best that it is done with the agreement of your parents. Sometimes parents can't agree about this and we have to get the permission of a Court. Your social worker will always tell you what is happening and why.

What happens after the meeting?

A social worker will talk to you about what has happened at the meeting and what will happen next. They will answer any questions you may have.

There will be regular meetings to check that you are being kept safe. When the meeting is sure that you are safe, your Protection Plan will stop.

You will be asked how you feel about this and what you would like to happen.

Complaints

Who can I talk to?

If you are unhappy about **anything** first talk to your social worker, teacher or another adult you trust.

If you are still not happy about the decisions taken at the Conference or the help you have been given and wish to talk to someone else, fill in the form attached to this leaflet. You can ask someone you trust to help you. You can also email boltonsafeguardingchildren@bolton.gov.uk



Large print, interpretations, text only and audio formats of this publication can be produced on request. Please call on 01204 337479 or email boltonsafeguardingchildren@bolton.gov.uk