

RIGHTS *AND* PARTICIPATION SERVICE

**WHAT HAPPENS
AT A...**

CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCE?

**YOUR
VOICE
IS IMPORTANT!**



BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN'S TRUST

What is a Child Protection Conference?

Conference just means meeting. So basically it is a meeting where people that know you and your family discuss keeping you and if you have brothers and sister safe.

Who is going to be there?

It might be some of your family, maybe school, maybe a police officer. You might not know everyone but they will be there to talk about your safety and keeping you safe.

One of these people is called the Child Protection Conference Chair. This person leads the meeting and makes sure that all the important information is discussed. Everybody is given the opportunity to share information and the Conference Chair will make sure the right decisions are made concerning your care and safety.

Can I go to the meeting?

Maybe, sometimes you might be in all of it, some of it or maybe not but if you want to attend you can ask to and someone should explain to you why the meeting is being held and also who will be there. You can ask for an advocate who might support you to attend the meeting and help you say what you want to say. Or they could go for you and make sure your views are represented. Its really important at the meeting everyone gets to hear what you think!

Will any of my family be there?

Your parents will usually be invited and it is important that they are there. Other family members such as grandparents, brothers and sisters, or aunts and uncles may be invited. They are likely to be invited if they are involved in your care or are worried about your safety.

What will be talked about in the meeting?

People will talk about what has happened which led to the meeting being called. They will also talk about things that are going well and things that need to improve. The chair will help focus the meeting so that everyone gets to talk about the things that they are worried about and make a plan together on how things will improve.

What if I want to say something that I don't want my Mum and Dad to hear?

You can tell your advocate, social worker or the Conference Chair about it in private. It will only be shared with others if we need to do anything extra to keep you safe.

What if I am worried about something before the meeting?

Being a little worried is normal. Try not to worry though. Everyone is going to try to make things better for you and you are really important! You can talk to your advocate, social worker or the conference chair if you are worried about anything in particular.

What is a Child Protection Plan?

A Child Protection Plan is a list of the work that needs to be done to make sure that you are safe. It will look at:

- **What needs to change**
- **How we will know that change has happened**
- **What will be done; who will do it; when it will happen.**

As part of the Plan there will be other meetings and you can attend and get to know when they are. Your social worker will visit you some more and may even come and see you at school.

How long will I have a Child Protection Plan?

You will have a Child Protection Plan for as long as we think we need to work with your family to keep you safe.

What if I want to complain about something I don't agree with?

It's ok to complain! And your advocate, social worker or conference chair wants to hear your views.

If you did want an advocate, simply call **0121 303 7217** or email **advocacy@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk**



You can also use **MOMO (Mind of My Own)** app, which allows you to write down any issues, comments or wishes and feelings and send it to your Social Worker, Advocate or your IRO



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