

What if I don't go to the meeting?

If you don't go to your meeting, you can still make sure your views are heard. It is very important for people to know what you think. You can tell us by writing a letter or in other ways that you may decide with your social worker, advocate or a worker you feel close to.

What can I do if I am not happy?

If you are not happy please let us know. We will listen to your views but we can't always promise that what you want will be possible. If you are still not happy your social worker can tell you how to make a complaint, or if you prefer you can call the complaints support service yourself – at the bottom of this page.

When can I speak to my social worker?

You can talk to your social worker at any time. Their name and telephone number is at the bottom of this page, or they will give you a card with their telephone number printed on it.

Useful numbers

My social worker is

Their telephone number is

Complaints support service – phone: **0113 395 0310**

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Child protection meetings



A guide for children
and young people

Children Leeds

This leaflet answers some of the questions you might have about child protection meetings. They are also called child protection conferences.

If you have more questions or need more information you can talk to your social worker. You can find their name and number on the back of this leaflet.

If you prefer, your social worker can arrange for you to speak to someone else, for example another worker you feel close to, about your child protection meeting or any of the information in this leaflet.

What is a child protection meeting?

A child protection meeting is a meeting that we arrange when there are worries about your safety.

Who goes to a child protection meeting?

Every meeting is different, but usually we will invite people who are important in your life, or who know you well, for example:

- ▶ your parents or carers;
- ▶ your social worker;
- ▶ your family doctor; and
- ▶ someone from your school.

We will also invite other people who you may not know but who may have information about you and your family.

What if there is someone I don't want to be there?

Please tell your social worker if there is someone you don't want to attend your meeting. Your social worker will let the chairperson know what you think.

The chairperson is in charge of the conference and can decide not to invite someone if they feel that they could threaten others or disrupt the meeting.

What happens at a child protection meeting?

The people at your meeting will explain why there are worries about your safety. You and your family will be able to say what you think about these worries, and tell people at the meeting if you think there is anything that may help.

What kinds of decisions are made?

If the people at your meeting agree that you are not safe, they will decide whether or not there should be a child protection plan. This plan will say what needs to happen to make you safe and who will help. You will get a copy of the plan from your social worker who will explain it to you.

Can I go to the meeting?

Some young people do come to all or part of the meeting and some young people don't, everyone and every situation is different. Your social worker will talk to you about whether you want to come to your meeting.

Can I bring someone with me?

If you do come to your meeting, you can bring someone with you if you like. You can bring someone just to be there with you, or if you wish, you can bring someone to act as your advocate and speak for you. An advocate can be a relative, friend or professional. Your social worker can help you to understand what an advocate does.