

What happens if a
Child Protection Plan
is made for your child

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Illustration by Kellie Craig



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A guide for parents and carers

Why does my child need a child protection plan?

At the initial child protection conference, the people involved with you and your child decided that your child is at risk of significant harm, and needs a child protection plan to protect them.

Who will know that my child has a child protection plan?

We will only tell those people who need to know, such as your child's teacher, doctor, school nurse.

Will my child's name be put on a list ?

There is a list of all those children in Calderdale who are at continuing risk of significant harm and who therefore need a child protection plan. The list contains basic details such as the child's name, date of birth, address and the category of significant harm specified at the conference by the chair. Calderdale Council's Child Protection and Review Team, Safeguarding Unit, keeps this information on behalf of the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Board. There are strict guidelines on who can check this information.

Will my child have to live somewhere else?

Most children with a child protection plan continue to live at home.

What happens now?

When the child protection conference decided that your child needed protection it also wrote an outline **child protection plan**. This will be developed into a full plan later, to show exactly who will be doing what to make sure your child is kept safe and well and your role in that process.

The child protection conference also named the **key worker** for your child. This will be a social worker who works with children with a protection plan.

The conference also named a group of people who will work together with you to make sure the child protection plan is carried out. This is called the **core group**.

What is a child protection plan?

The child protection plan identifies the risks to your child, how we will work together to reduce the risks, and the ways in which your child will be protected. It will say what assessments should be carried out to consider your family's needs, and who has responsibility for what, including the things you must do.

We will talk to you about the plan and send you a copy. We will make sure the plan is understandable by you and you can ask for the plan to be translated if English is not your first language.

It is very important that you work to the agreed plan, together with the other people involved. If the plan is not followed, further action may be necessary to protect your child.

What is the core group?

The core group is the group of people who work together to make sure the child protection plan is carried out.

The first meeting of the core group will take place within 10 working days of the initial child protection conference and will develop the outline plan into the full plan. After this the core group will meet at least every 6 weeks to update the plan and look at the work of each core group member.

You will receive a written report about each meeting, and information about the time and place of the next meeting.

Who is in the core group?

As the child's parents and carers it is very important that you are active members of the core group. The social worker will make every effort to involve you in drawing up the plan, and to make sure you understand what you and others need to do.

The core group will also include your child's keyworker, health visitor, teacher and other workers who know your child well.

It could also include other members of your family if this would help.

Will my child come to the core group?

This will depend on your child's age, understanding and other circumstances.

What does the keyworker do?

Your child will have a named keyworker who is a qualified social worker. The keyworker will want to see and speak to your child, sometimes on their own, and you need to make sure this can happen. The keyworker will visit you and your family regularly, and at least every 4 weeks.

The keyworker is also responsible for making sure that the core group meetings take place and that the child protection plan is followed.

What help can my family get?

To look at what services are likely to help you we must assess your child's needs and those of your family. This is called a **core assessment**.

To make this assessment we need to know more about you and your family. This will involve collecting information and talking it through with you.

You, your family, and all the people involved with your family will be asked to contribute to the Core Assessment.

How long will my child need to have a child protection plan?

Within 3 months after the initial conference, a child protection review conference will be held. This review must look at whether your child is still at risk of significant harm.

If your child is no longer considered to be at risk, they will no longer need to have a protection plan and their name will be taken off the list

If your child is still considered to be at risk the plan will remain in place, and the review conference will consider whether any changes are needed or any further action required. The core group will continue to meet and the keyworker will continue to visit your child.

How often does the review conference happen?

The first review must be within 3 months after the initial conference, then further reviews will take place at least every 6 months.

You will be invited to the review conference and given the opportunity to say what has changed in your family and whether you think your child is still at risk.

What if I'm not happy about what happens at a conference?

Tell the social worker or the Independent Reviewing Officer who ran the meeting straight away. It may be possible for the Independent Reviewing Officer to sort this out for you. If not, there are other things you can do, but you need to tell us within 3 working days of the conference.

Ask for our information sheet CSCB5 about Complaints/Appeals,
or look at the CSCB web site at:
www.calderdale-scb.org.uk

Help and advice

The following is a list of advice and advocacy services you might find helpful:

Solicitors

a list of solicitors who specialise in family law can be found in the Solicitors and Barristers Directory, available in Central Library, Northgate, Halifax

Tel: 01422 392630

www.lawsociety.org.uk/choosingandusing/findasolicitor.law

Citizens' Advice Bureau

have offices in Halifax, Brighouse, Elland, Hebden Bridge, Todmorden

Advice line: Tel:01422 842848

www.calderdalecab.org.uk

Other local advice centres include:

Queens Road Advice Centre

194 Queens Road Halifax HX1 4NE

Tel: 01422 322778

www.queensroadadvice.com

Rhodes Street Advice Centre

Tel: 01422 341908

Parentline

a free, confidential help-line for anyone in a parenting role is provided by Parentline

Tel: 0808 800 2222

www.parentlineplus.org.uk

Family Rights Group Advice Line

Tel: freephone 0800 731 1696

from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm and

1.30 pm to 3.30 pm on weekdays

(advice can be offered in languages other than English)

www.frg.org.uk

Calderdale Safeguarding Children Board wants to provide helpful, accurate and understandable information. If you find any of this information unclear, wrong or out-of-date, or if you think additional information would help other readers, please let us know so that amendments can be made.
Contact: 01422 393337

If you would like this information
in another format or language,
please contact: 01422 393337

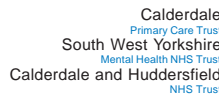
আপনি যদি এই তথ্য অন্য কোন মাধ্যম অথবা ভাষায় চান
তাহলে দয়া করে যোগাযোগ করুন :
01422 393337

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Safeguarding
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www.calderdale-scb.org.uk



Call 01422 393337

Safeguarding children - everyone's responsibility