

## Further information

For further information on what will happen during the Family Group Conference visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for 'family group conference family rights group'.

### For further information about Sunderland Family Group Conference Service contact:

any of our Family Group Conference Co-ordinators on [FGC@togetherforchildren.org.uk](mailto:FGC@togetherforchildren.org.uk)

alternatively, please talk to your Family Group Conference coordinator if you would like more information.

Your FGC Coordinator is: .....

Their telephone number is: .....



## Family Group Conference Service

A guide to our service – family

## Introduction

Family Group Conferences are different to other meetings. They give the family, children and young people the opportunity to plan for their future with help and support as needed. Family Group Conferences are a means of helping families to find their own solutions to problems.

## What is a Family Group Conference

Families know each other best and so are best placed to plan for the future wellbeing of their children and young people. Family Group Conferences are meetings with family members, relatives and friends. The aim is to discuss issues and make a plan for the future.

## What will happen?

A Family Group Conference coordinator will talk to family members including the children and young people about the meeting. Together they will decide where and when the meeting will happen and who to invite.

## Who will be there?

The coordinator will plan with the family who to invite to the meeting. This will include family, friends and possibly workers from the services or agencies who are already working with the family.

## How does it work?

### Part 1: Information sharing

The family, friends, coordinator and any other people involved meet to discuss the current situation and any issues or concerns. Professionals will explain any support they can offer. The family will then be left alone to discuss the information.

### Part 2: Private family time

During Private Family Time the family is left alone to discuss the information given in part 1 of the meeting. Your job as a family group is to decide the best way forward for your child. You will need to:

- Agree a plan
- Decide who does what in the plan
- Decide how you can check the plan is working

### Part 3: The plan

Once you have agreed your plan the coordinator and other professionals will come back in. The coordinator will make sure that the plan is clear and that all issues have been dealt with. Provided you have addressed the professional's concerns, your plan will be accepted. Everyone named in the plan will work together to put it into action and make it a success. Arrangements will be made to review your plan.

