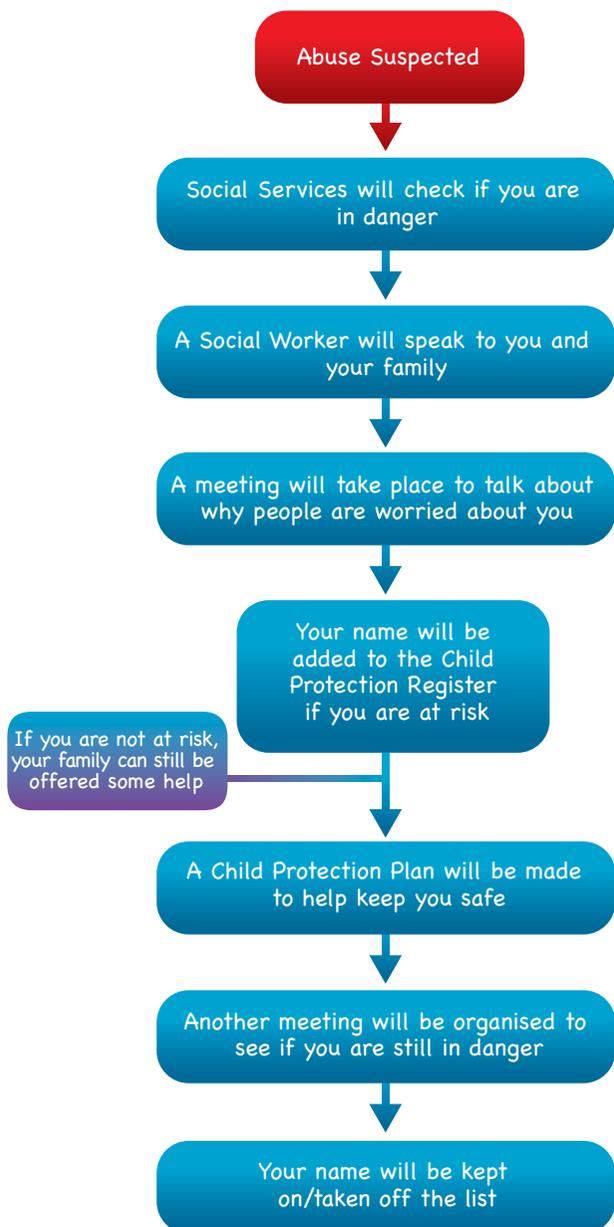


Here is a summary of the child protection process:



Contacts

BELFAST HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST

Central contact point 028 9050 7000
Out of hours 028 9056 5444

NORTHERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST

Central contact point 0300 1234 333
Out of hours 028 9446 8833

SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST

Central contact point 0300 1000 300
Out of hours 028 9056 5444

SOUTHERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST

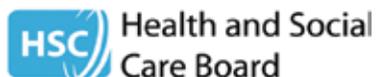
Central contact point 0800 783 7745
Out of hours 028 3833 4444

WESTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST

Central contact point 028 7131 4090
Out of Hours 028 7134 5171

Central numbers can be used 9am-5pm. Out of hours can be used after 5pm, weekends and bank holidays.

If you need further information please contact your local Trust



This leaflet was designed by children from  VOYPIC. VOYPIC is an organisation which works with care experienced children. To contact VOYPIC phone: 028 9024 4888

Young Person's Guide to Child Protection Under 12s



What does Child Protection mean?

Child protection is when Social Services work with children and families to help keep them safe and out of danger.

Sometimes other people can hurt children by making them feel sad, not looking after them properly, or harming them in other ways. This is not right.

You should be safe ALL THE TIME and it is Social Services' job to help with this.

What happens if I am not safe?

If someone thinks you are in danger, they might contact Social Services and tell them why they are worried about you. You can phone as well if you are scared or unhappy at home.

If this happens a Social Worker will visit you at home to check if you are safe.

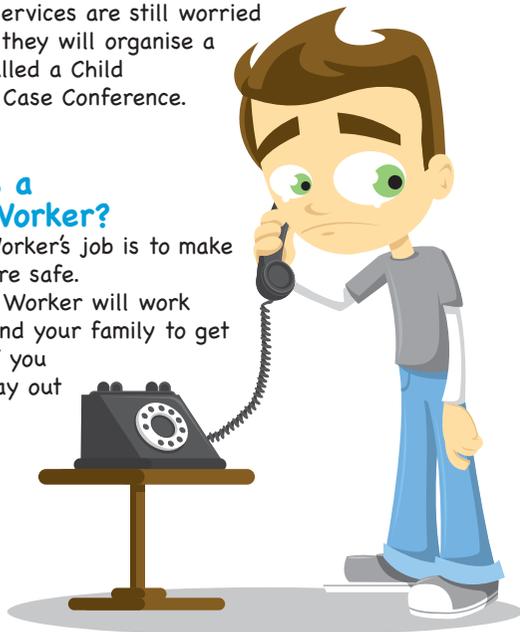
The Social Worker will speak to you on your own and will speak to your family too.

If Social Services are still worried about you they will organise a meeting called a Child Protection Case Conference.

What is a Social Worker?

A Social Worker's job is to make sure you are safe.

The Social Worker will work with you and your family to get you help if you need to stay out of danger.



What is a Child Protection Case Conference?

This is a meeting organised by Social Services to talk about why they are worried about you and how they can help to keep you safe.

Your parents will be invited and so will other adults who know you, like your teacher or doctor. You can also be invited to attend all or part of the meeting.

What happens at the meeting?

People will tell you about the reason they are worried about you. They will want to know how you are feeling, how you are doing at school, and how you are getting on at home. If you want you can attend the meeting too.

If you don't want to go to your meeting you can tell your Social Worker what you want to say and they will tell the people who need to know. You could even write a story or draw a picture. At the end of the meeting all of the adults, except your parents, will decide if you need some extra help to stay safe. If you do, your name will be put on the Child Protection Register.

What is the Child Protection Register?

If Social Services think that you are not safe it is their job to help protect you. If this happens your name will be added to the Child Protection Register.

This is a list of names of all the children Social Services are worried about. It is important that these children and their families get the help they need so everyone is safe. This list is kept safe and very few people are allowed to see it.

What happens after the Child Protection Case Conference?

After this meeting your Social Worker will arrange another one to make plans to keep you safe. These will be things your parents and your Social Worker need to do. There might be some things you need to do too, like going to school or talking to an adult you trust.

Your Social Worker will visit you, and three months after the meeting everyone will meet again to see how things have gone. When it is decided that you are safe your name will be taken off the register.

