

Gloucestershire County Council Family Meeting Service

Your family. Your meeting. Your plan.

Name of coordinator:

Contact details:



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A Family Meeting gives you the chance to get together with close family and friends to talk, plan and make decisions that support your family and children.

All families have times when they might need some extra support. When things are difficult, people who are important to you may be able to help.

How does a Family Meeting work?

A Coordinator will meet with you to talk about how things are for you. They will also talk to you about:

- the best way to include the children
- who you would like to attend
- a good time and place to have the Family Meeting
- any food or other arrangements that would help you take part



What will happen at a Family Meeting?

1

Information sharing

You, your family and your Family Help Lead will talk about what is going well. You receive the information needed to make your plan, ask questions and hear the children's views.

2

Private family time

Your family and friends network has time to talk and come up with your plan. You can take a break when you want to and take the time you need.

3

Agreeing the plan

Your family and friends network shares the plan with the Referrer and Coordinator so that everyone understands it and the referrer can agree it.

Support to make your family plan work

Your plan may identify practical, financial or other support needed to help your family network contribute safely and effectively. This is called a Family Network Support Package. It can record:

- what support is needed and how it will help the child
- who in the family or friends network can help
- what professional, practical or financial support is needed
- who will do what and how the arrangements will be reviewed

The support package builds on your family's strengths and forms part of your family plan. When there is a Family Help assessment or an other plan, the arrangements will be reviewed alongside it.

The children's views

Children's views are very important in a Family Meeting. Children will be offered someone to help them think about what they want to say and how they would like their views to be shared. Children are always welcome at a Family Meeting.

What happens next?

After the meeting, the Coordinator will make sure that everyone invited gets a copy of the plan.

If you want a review, you can get together again to talk about what has worked well and what needs to change.

Information for parents and carers

- A Family Meeting is voluntary
- It is your meeting and your choice. You can decide at any time not to have the meeting
- The Family Meeting Service team is independent from social workers

Is a Family Meeting confidential?

We will not discuss anything you tell us without your permission. What is discussed is confidential unless there is a safeguarding concern.

The Family Plan developed and agreed at the Family Meeting will be shared with everyone invited to the meeting.

Further information

For more details, please contact your Coordinator or the Family Meeting Service. We also welcome feedback about your experience.

This leaflet is available in other formats on request

For more information about Gloucestershire County Council privacy, visit the Council's service specific privacy notices and choose the Children's Services option.



Telephone:



Email: