



Local Safeguarding
Children Board

*information for
children and young people
about
child protection investigations*



what happens when someone is concerned about the safety of a young person?

The law says that anyone who is concerned about a young person's safety must do something to make that young person safe. To do this they will usually contact the Children's Services Department.



the investigation

The Children's Services Department will look at all the information and decide what needs to be done and who else to involve.

A Social Worker and possibly a Police Officer will come and see you. They will talk to you about what has happened, how safe you feel and what might happen next.

It is very important to get it right. They may also talk to your parents, schoolteacher, doctor and other professionals who are involved in making sure that young people are safe. This is called a **Child Protection Inquiry** or **Child Protection Investigation**.

Occasionally, they might ask you to record your interview on video. You can refuse this, but a video may save you having to be interviewed several times. Very few people would see the video, although it may be used as evidence in Court.



what happens next?

The Social Worker will need to speak to other people involved before any decision is made.

These are the usual options:

A Social Worker may want to offer support to you and your family or to find other support in your neighbourhood that may help.

A Child Protection Conference may be held. This is a meeting to consider your safety. Information about conferences has been put in another leaflet that your social worker will give to you.



will i have to be seen by a doctor?

Not if you don't want to. One of the ways to make decisions about your safety is to have a medical examination by a doctor. This would make sure that you are well and would provide details about any injuries.



will i stay at home?

Young people usually carry on living at home during the investigation, if it is safe. Sometimes it is necessary for the person who has hurt you to leave while the investigation is carried out.

If it not safe for you at home a friend or relative may be able to look after you. If none of these are possible you may be cared for by foster carers.

what are my rights?

To be listened to.

To be involved and told about decisions made about you.

To have advice from someone who is independent e.g. Children's Rights Officer or a solicitor.

To be told in writing the outcome of the investigation.

To complain about the decisions and actions taken, if you are not happy with them.



what if i have any questions about the investigation?

Your Social Worker will try to answer all of your questions. It might be helpful to write these down.

my questions:

A large, light green question mark icon inside a circle, centered on a white background with horizontal dotted lines for writing.

*you can also get information and advice
from any of the organisations listed below:*

Childline: 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

Free and confidential telephone advice line for children and young people.

Kidscape: www.kidscape.org.uk

National Children's Bureau: www.youngncb.org.uk

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

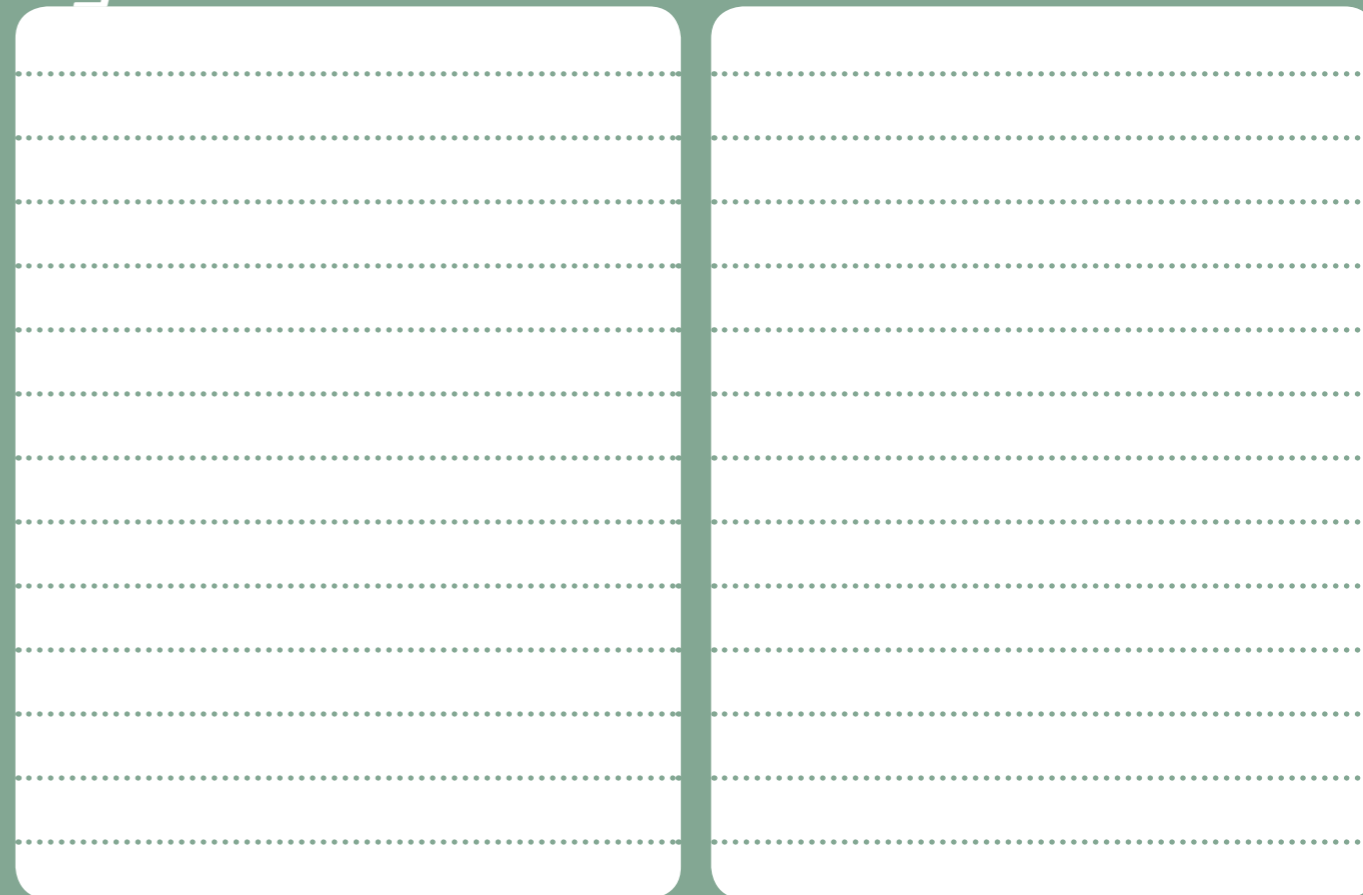
Children's Legal Centre: 0845 456 6811


Leicestershire Children's Rights Service: 08000 830652

Leicester City Children's Rights Service: 0116 225 4730

Rutland Children's Rights Service: 01572 722 577

my numbers:





My name is:

My Social Worker is:

Their contact number is: