

Multi-disciplinary Case Conference on Protection of Child with Suspected Abuse

Leaflet for
Children



社會福利署
Social Welfare Department

Every child needs proper care and guidance from adults so that he/she can grow up healthily. If a child is being harmed, no matter by whom, others have the responsibility to protect the child.

What is a Multi-disciplinary Case Conference on Protection of Child with Suspected Abuse (the conference)?

When it is suspected that a child is harmed, people like social workers, teachers, doctors and police officers will meet the child and his/her family. The child will also have his/her body checked by a doctor. They will then hold a conference to discuss how to help the child live in a safe environment and protect him/her from harm. They will also discuss how to help his/her family overcome difficulties so that they can provide proper care and guidance for the child.

Can parents or children take part in the conference?

The social worker will usually invite the parents to attend the conference to discuss things about the child and his/her family. But sometimes it is not suitable to do so because of special reasons.

Sometimes, the social worker will also invite an older child to attend the conference, and explain to him/her before the conference how it will be held. However, a younger child is usually not invited to attend because he/she may not understand what is being discussed.

Though some parents or children do not attend the conference, the social worker will discuss with them the future arrangements for the child and the family, for example, where the child will live, who will take care of the child, whether they need assistance from other people, etc. The social worker will listen to their views and report them at the conference to let other people know and consider.

After the conference, the social worker will tell the parents and the child what opinions that people at the conference had given. If the child has any questions or worries, he/she can tell the social worker at any time. The social worker will discuss with him/her how to cope with them.