

# Family Rights Group

Family Rights Group advises parents/grandparents/other relatives about their rights and options when social workers or courts make decisions about their children's welfare

Telephone Advice line (free to call):

**0808 801 0366**



Your co-ordinator's name is:

Your co-ordinator's phone number is:

“ We were all there together, **good time for all family, got to have food** and say what we wanted.

(Young person aged 13 years)

“ The meeting **helped me** open up to my family about how bad things were.

(Mum)



Doncaster Council

# What is a Family Group Conference?

A Family Group Conference is an opportunity to help you as a family to find your own solutions. It will only go ahead if you agree to it and you can change your mind at any time.

An independent FGC co-ordinator will help prepare you and your family for the meeting.

The FGC process is family led, you get to choose:

- **The venue of the meeting.**
- **Time of the meeting**, which can be flexible to suit your family.
- **Food** at the meeting.
- **Who is invited** to the meeting.



## What happens at the meeting?

### 1) Information sharing:

The professional working with you will explain why they are worried about your child. Your children will have a chance to share their wishes and feelings with the help of an advocate if they would like one. You can ask questions about help available to you and you can ask for any other information you may need to be able to write your plan.

### 2) Private family time:

You, your family and friends will be left on your own so that you can make your plan together. You will need to: agree a plan, decide who will do what, think about what help you may need. You don't have to hurry and the co-ordinator will be nearby if you need any more help or information.

### 3) Clarifying and agreeing the plan:

You and your family share the plan with the professionals working with you and the FGC co-ordinator. The plan is usually agreed as long as it is safe for you and your children.

## What happens after the meeting?

The FGC co-ordinator will make sure everyone invited gets a copy of the plan.

A review meeting will be offered to you. This is usually around three months from the date of the first meeting but can be sooner or later if it needs to be. This is a chance to discuss how the plan is working and if anything needs to be changed.

“It was an ideal opportunity to discuss needs of the children, I felt supported and had a clearer view of the future. Thank you so much for your help.”

(Mum)

