## **Residential Placement Preparation**

Prior to any residential placement the allocated Social Worker will be required to provide the placement with the following documentation.

## Chronology

Background information in the form of a recent Core assessment, Psychiatric Report, Psychologist report, Transfer Summary, or current Care Plan. This is necessary in order that the Homes manager can complete an Impact Assessment. Ideally this documentation needs to be provided 7 days before the start of any placement.

Once the Impact assessment has been completed and the placement agreed, the Social Worker will need to provide the placement with.

An 'up to date' Care Plan and Placement Agreement

Child's Birth Certificate

Medical, Operative Treatment, 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Consent

Child's Legal Status

Educational Statement – Where appropriate

Recent Psychiatric Report – Where Appropriate

Recent Clinical Psychologist Report - Where Appropriate

National Medical Card / NHS Number

A Social History of Child/Family

List of numbers for permitted contacts

## Placement Planning.

- Legislation makes clear that Residential Settings should have maximum appropriate flexibility in taking decisions in relation to children in their care, within the framework of the Care Plan and properly respecting the wishes of parents.
- The Placement planning meeting is the forum to share information and sort out who does what when a child is placed. It needs to be focussed on ensuring that the day to day needs of the child/young person are met.

- Ideally the Placement Planning meeting should be held before the placement commences and this would always be an expectation where a planned long term placement is anticipated.
- In circumstances where this is not possible it should be held within 72hrs following the start of the placement and ensure there is clarity about who does what and what decisions have been made.
- Delegated responsibility should be given to the Residential Setting to allow them to make decisions on behalf of the Local Authority and the parent, this responsibility should be recorded in the relevant part of the placement plan. The Placement Agreement and plan replaces the DoH Placement Plan part 1&2.
- Social Workers should ensure that the Residential Setting receive good information on the history of the child as well as information regarding day to day decisions in order to help them make decisions.
- Particular attention should be paid to the responsibility for deciding whether the young person can stay overnight or for short holidays with their friends, or relatives.
- Where there is no agreement made in terms of a particular responsibility, timescales to cover omissions should be set.
- Delegation of responsibility should be revisited at every review and discussed by all parties as required between reviews.

## **The Placement Plan**

 The child's Social Worker brings the Placement Plan to the meeting having consulted with the child and parents and commenced discussion re delegated responsibility.

 Residential worker completes minutes of meeting. Any discrepancies should be recorded on the minutes including reasons and timescales for omissions.

 At the Planning meeting the Residential worker and child's Social Worker and (possibly child and parents) continue with the document and consider further the delegated responsibility.

• Form Signed by all parties

- The form is then returned to the team manager of the child/young persons Social Worker to be signed off
- It is then filed on the child's file and copies forwarded to LAC admin and the people with PR where appropriate
- The form is a working document and can be reviewed and updated as required it should be reviewed at the child's review.