

## **Part 1 - Parents meeting**

### **Introduction**

For most parents attendance at a child protection conference is a challenging experience and for some, one which is not well understood. Part 1 of the meeting is scheduled to last for 30 minutes and is an opportunity to prepare the parents so that they can contribute as well as possible to the process. This will include parents who are not willing or unable to cooperate in the way we would wish but we should nonetheless attempt to ensure that their views and opinions are well represented in the Child Protection Conference

### **Setting the scene**

- Describe the purpose and format of the conference
- Who will be attending
- The reasons the conference has been convened
- Managing anger or distress

### **Is the parent well informed**

- They have had access to reports and understand them

### **Clarifying family details**

- Parents clarifying who's who and providing useful biographical information

### **The Grid**

- Talking through risks, impact and strengths. Thinking about the plan. What are the important issues or facts that parents want to bring out and how can they best present them. Do they want help from the CPC to express them in the meeting.

### **Parents who can't or won't cooperate with the process**

- Try to agree what can/will happen i.e. make a statement at the beginning or end
- Parents who disagree or have opposing views