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| **Stability and Disruption Meetings** | Top of Form    Bottom of Form |

**1.  Stability Meeting**

Where there are concerns regarding the stability of a placement a stability meeting should be convened.

The purpose of a stability meeting is to take a multi-agency approach to supporting the placement to prevent placement breakdown. A holistic approach should be taken in order to contribute towards ensuring that the carers are supported, and that the chid/young person is safe and that their voice, wishes and feelings are heard.

The Stability Meeting can provide a deeper level of insight into the strengths and limitations of the placement in order to inform decisions that are made in regards to continued support the placement may need or whether if the placement is no longer deemed suitable or appropriate to continue. The Stability Meeting can also feed into an assessment of risks and how they are to be managed.

A support plan will be agreed at the Stability Meeting. The core professionals to support the plan will be identified and agreement will be made as to how often a support plan review meeting will be held.

In House Placements:

Stability Meetings are an extended form of support. As such they are chaired by a Fostering Team Manager or if appropriate an experienced Supervising Social Worker.

The people listed below should contribute to the meetings:

1. The child’s social worker and/or other professional associated with the child e.g. [**Personal Adviser**](http://trixresources.proceduresonline.com/nat_key/keywords/personal_adviser.html) (Pathways Support Worker) or advocate;
2. The child;
3. The foster carers and their supervising social worker.
4. Virtual School Representative
5. CIC Nurse Representative

IFA/Residential Placements:

**2.  Disruption Meetings**

A Disruption Meeting is an opportunity for all key professionals to reflect and take learning from an ending of a placement which results in an unplanned move for a child. The key principle of Disruption Meetings is that the purpose is not to attribute blame and as such should be a time of reflection and identifying next steps.

There should be consideration to hold a Disruption Meeting where a long term placement has ended:

* Abruptly or on an unplanned basis
* The ending is not part of a pathway plan
* The carer has given notice on a long term matched placement

In House Foster Placements & IFA placements Disruption Meetings would follow the same format.

Disruption meetings are Chaired by an IRO (not the child’s allocated IRO).

Those invited, or asked to contribute, should be:

1. The child;
2. The parents;
3. The child's social worker and manager;
4. The link worker/keyworker (for residential care) and home manager;
5. The foster carer(s) and supervising social worker;
6. The child's [**Independent Reviewing Officer**](http://trixresources.proceduresonline.com/nat_key/keywords/indep_reviewing_officer.html);
7. The child's current carers;
8. Other relevant staff/professionals.

The precise agenda will depend on the child/circumstances, but the chairperson should ensure the circumstances leading to the disruption are properly reviewed, and that all concerned are provided with opportunities to express their views freely with a view to establishing:

* How and why the emergency/disruption occurred;
* To learn from what happened and avoid the same thing happening again - for the child or others in the placement;
* To contribute to the future planning for the child;
* To identify work to be done and to ensure it is completed;
* To ensure that appropriate notifications and other post placement arrangements have been undertaken.

The chairperson should keep minutes, which must be circulated to all concerned.

**End**