

Family Group Conferencing

One Minute Guide



FOR FAMILIES AND PROFESSIONALS

Contact us

FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCE TEAM

Broadgate House
Floor 4
Coventry CV1 1FS
E. FGC@coventry.gov.uk

Name of Co-ordinator.

Contact Details.

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7 ONGOING SUPPORT AND REVIEW MEETING

The family, their friends, extended family and other supporters and the professionals who are working with them will follow the plan and make the changes as agreed.

- The FGC Coordinator arranges a follow-up meeting (a review) to see how things are going for the family and child/ren.
- The FGC Coordinator will contact the Referring Agency and the Family to agree arrangements with them.
- The family (including child/ren) can then say how the plan is working for them and can agree what happens next with the referring agency.

1 IS THE FGC APPROPRIATE FOR THE FAMILY?

Family Group Conference (FGC) harnesses the strengths of the family and is a powerful tool for creative problem solving and setting clear targets. Before referral, consider:

Be clear on Purpose

- FGC is a voluntary process

– you must have agreement from the family.

- You should identify family or friends who can support the FGC process.
- The family must understand the reasons why you need an FGC/include signs of Safety goals.

2 REFERRAL (PROVIDE AND GATHER INFORMATION)

Ensure the family are provided with information leaflets about the service. There are separate leaflets for families, professionals and young people. The FGC team can also contact the family directly to answer questions.

- Complete the referral on the link below – be thorough and clear about concerns and what needs to change.
- Discuss with FGC team whether advocacy or further support is needed to help family members have their say.

• <http://www.coventry.gov.uk/FGCCoventry>

6 ON THE DAY: SHARING THE PLAN

The Family present their plan to the referring agency. The Coordinator comes back in too, to help everyone listen, and make sure the plan is considered fully. Then:

- The plan is agreed, sometimes with changes

to make sure the child/ren are safe.

- The coordinator sends out a copy of the plan to all the people who attended.
- A review date is set by the coordinator, when everyone will see how things have changed.

3 PLANNING THE FGC MEETING

FGC provide an independent FGC Coordinator to set up the FGC meeting. They will:

- Make sure the child/ren are supported and their wishes and feelings are heard.

- Help the family decide who needs to be at the meeting and meet with them beforehand to prepare them for the FGC.
- Organise practicalities like date, time, venue etc.

5 ON THE DAY: PRIVATE FAMILY TIME

The family and any friends, extended family members or other supporters then have time to discuss what has been said and come up with a plan to make things better and safer for the child/ren in the future.

- The FGC coordinator will work with family members beforehand to help.
- But it will be the family in charge and making the plan.

4 ON THE DAY: INFORMATION SHARING

The professionals attending the meeting start by sharing information about the concerns and what help might be available from within the family and elsewhere.

- Everyone at the meeting gets a chance to speak and ask questions (this includes children).

- Information is presented sensitively and without judgement.
- The independent FGC coordinator makes sure everyone is listened to.

