

What if I don't agree with any of this?

It is normal to feel worried about any meeting or plans made there. It is very likely that you agree that it is important to make sure your child/ren are safe and their needs met.

You may not agree with how this is being done and you are entitled to complain about how the meeting was run. The chairperson or your child/ren's social worker will let you know how you can do this.

Useful contacts

Citizens Advice Bureau:
Tel: 03444 111 444

Family Lives (formerly Parentline Plus):
Tel: 01623 494320

Family Rights Group:
Tel: 0808 801 0366

For any questions about the Adolescence Risk Management Meeting, please contact:

Your child/ren's social worker:

Tel:

The Conference chairperson:

Tel: 01604 363380

Email: SQAS@northamptonshire.gov.uk

This leaflet can be made available in large print, Braille, or in other languages on request

We can arrange an interpreter or signer to attend the meeting with you.

Adolescent Risk Management Meeting (ARM)

A guide for parents and carers

What is a Adolescent Risk Management Meeting

It is a meeting being held because professionals have worries about the safety of an adolescent in your home who may be at risk of harming themselves or others.

Sometimes this is because of involvement in gangs, mental health issues, because they are regularly going missing or are at risk of sexual exploitation.

The meeting will share information about the concerns, discuss how serious the risks are and what kind of support is needed to keep your child/ren safe.

Professionals such as your child/ren's social worker, a teacher, specialist support worker and police officer who attend the meeting, will be asked to write a report and reports will be shared at the meeting. The meeting is confidential and only people who need to know will attend and be given reports.

The meeting will discuss:

- What people are worried about regarding the safety of your child
- What is going well for your child and your family
- What needs to be done, by whom to keep your child(ren) safe in the future

If the meeting decides that your child is at risk of significant harm, and that this is because of the parenting he/she is receiving then a plan is needed to protect them, they will be made the subject of a Child Protection Plan.

However if the risk is decided to not be directly as a result of parenting being received currently then an **Adolescent Risk Management Plan** may be offered. Neither of these plans affect your legal rights as a parent or your responsibility for your child.

Who can be invited to the meeting?

Please consider who would be helpful to attend from your and your child's support network. The chairperson will talk with you all about their role in the meeting

The meeting will be led by an independent chairperson who will meet with you and your family beforehand to make sure you know what will happen and how you can say what you want to say. Someone will take notes, and these will be sent to you and everyone else who attends. Parents or carers and anyone who is important to or supportive of the young person may attend. Sometimes the chairperson will have a reason why a person should not attend, or might ask you to leave for a short time.

The young persons being discussed should attend, if possible. This should be discussed with the social worker in advance.

Professionals such as the social worker and other professionals, such as a teacher or RISE worker will attend, and a police officer

How will my views be heard?

Your views are an important part of the meeting and you will have a chance to tell the meeting what you think and what you need as a family.

This is your family's meeting and we need your help to understand what support you need to make sure your child is safe

What is a Adolescent Risk Management Plan?

An Adolescent Risk Management Plan is a plan of things that need to be done to make your child(ren) safer. The Plan will be reviewed regularly under Child in Need procedures and will end when you and professionals who know you agree that your child/children are safe.