



South Eastern Health
and Social Care Trust

**If you are worried about a child's
welfare or safety please contact the
Single Point of Entry
Gateway Team on:**

0300 1000 300

**A duty social worker is
available to take your call
Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm
(excluding public and
bank holidays)**

**Outside the above hours,
please contact the
Regional Emergency
Social Work Service on:**

(028) 9504 9999

Looked After Children (LAC) Review

**A guide for parents attending a
Looked After Children Review**

How can you contribute to the LAC Review?

It is important that you are able to contribute your knowledge of your child and family. The social worker will contact you in advance of the LAC Review to ascertain your wishes and feelings. Professionals invited to attend the LAC Review should provide a written report summarising the details of their involvement with your family and relevant information. They should endeavour to share the contents with you prior to the LAC Review.

You along with all the other professionals present will be asked for your opinion in respect of how the placement is meeting your child's needs including education, health, social and emotional wellbeing. The LAC Review will also consider how best to safeguard your child in the placement.

Who will attend?

You will be invited to the LAC Review as will your child/young person provided he/she is of sufficient understanding. The social worker will check with you whether you will need any practical or financial help in order to attend the LAC Review. Other professionals, with knowledge of or direct contact with your child, will also be invited to attend, for example their school teacher, the health visitor or indeed any other health professional that may be involved with the child. Those not able to attend will be asked to provide reports that outline their assessment of your family situation.

What next?

The LAC Review will be chaired by a member of staff above senior social worker level. The social worker will present their assessment of your family situation.

It is the responsibility of the first LAC Review to plan for the welfare of your child. Subsequent LAC Reviews will monitor the progress of this plan and further decisions will be made if it is felt they are in the best interest of your child. Issues such as an assessment of your child's health care needs, social needs and educational requirements will be discussed.

The LAC Review must also give serious consideration to promoting contact between your child and with you as the parent. It will also consider any other person who may have parental responsibility for them and any other relative, friend or person who may have an emotional connection with your child unless such action is not reasonably practicable or is not consistent with your child's welfare.

It is important that you attend this LAC Review as your contribution to the decision making process is important.