

Family Group Conference (FGC) is available to Plymouth families and can be accessed with your consent, by referral from a professional working with you.

Consent can be withdrawn by you at any time.

FGC is a process to help you manage difficult conversations with each other and try to reach some joint decisions about how you can move forwards.

The team are experienced in managing emotional and difficult issues, safely and constructively.

We will try to make sure that you have the best possible chance of a positive outcome for your family.

For more information please
give us a call on
01752 306861

Family Group Conference Service



Family and Community Solutions

Frederick Street Centre
Frederick Street West
Stonehouse
Plymouth PL1 5JW
fgc@plymouth.gov.uk



Creating stronger foundations
for the future.

About Family Group Conference (FGC)

It is an opportunity for families and important people in a child's life to meet together, to openly share and discuss information. We believe that families can make positive plans for their children if they have the information and support they need.

FGC aims to provide a safe, comfortable and neutral environment for families to come together and talk. The aim of the meeting is for you to make a plan which will keep your children safe and work towards the best outcome. The focus of the meeting will always be centred around the needs of the child.

A meeting will be organised with you by an independent coordinator, who is not involved with your family in any other way. They will help to prepare you and the family for your meeting. They will also speak to any professionals and make sure they are prepared for the meeting too.

The coordinator will work with you to make sure you have all the up-to-date information available, in order to understand any worries and concerns and what help is available.

The children's views are really important in a family meeting. Your child will be offered an independent advocate to help them think about what they want to say, and how this can be done. Children are encouraged to attend the meeting and share their views whenever possible.



About the FGC Meeting

Your meeting happens in three stages

- 1. Information sharing**
This is when your family will hear the relevant information about the issues and you can ask questions to help you understand and be able to plan
- 2. Private Family Time**
This is when your family is left alone to talk about everything you have heard and think about what you want to do to help things get better and move forward. Don't worry, the coordinator will be on hand in case you need more information or support to re-focus
- 3. Sharing Your Plan**
This is when your family share the family plan with the coordinator and referrer (if relevant) to make sure it is understood by everyone

You will be invited to come back and review your plan up to 12 weeks after your plan was made. This is to help you celebrate success, make new plans or make any changes you feel are needed.