



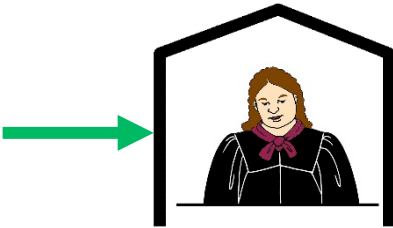
What is a Care Plan?

the **Bumpy** Road

Easy English fact sheets for parents dealing with the child protection system. Advice from parents with experience.



Community Services took your child.



You must go to Court.



You need a Care Plan. It is the law.



Community Services ask you to a meeting.

It is about your child's Care Plan.

It is a good idea to go to this meeting.



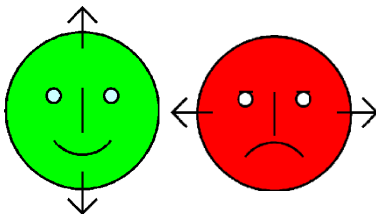
Take a support person to the meeting.

You can take

- a support person
- an advocate.



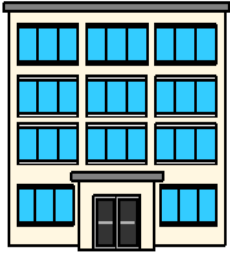
You say what you want in the Care Plan.



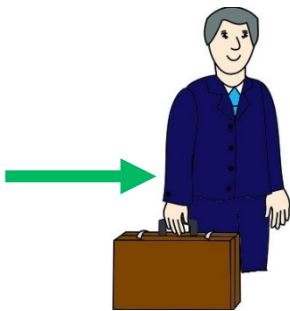
Community Services may **not** agree with you.

You may **not** agree with the Care Plan.

That is OK.



Community Services write what they think is best for your child.

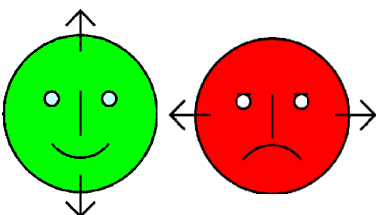


You can take the Care Plan to your lawyer. He can help you work out what to do.



You do **not** have to sign the care plan.

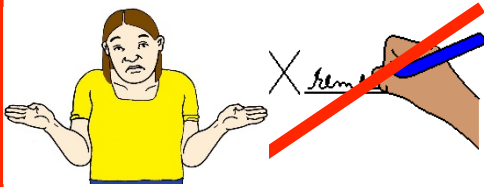
You say



- I agree

or

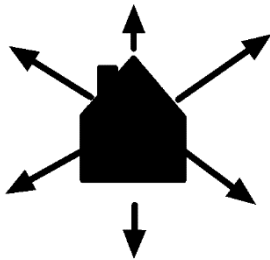
- I do **not** agree with the Care Plan.



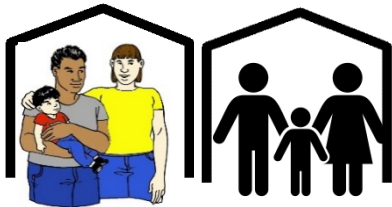
Do **not** sign any papers when
you do **not** understand them.



Your Care Plan



1. Where your child will live

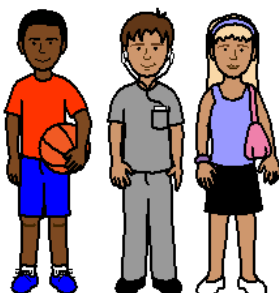


Community services says

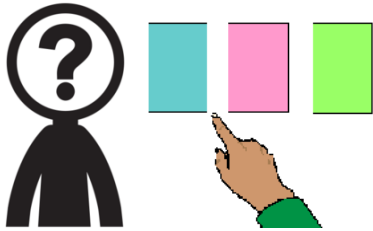
- your child can go home

or

- your child must live with someone else.



This may be until your child is 18.



2. Who chooses things about your child



Someone needs to be in charge of your child.

That person chooses things about your child. Like

- when to go to the doctor
- what doctor to go to

It is called **Parental Responsibility**.



3. Who can see your child

This helps you plan your contact.



You will know

- who can see your child. Like
 - mum only

but



- **not** your stepson



- how many times you can see your child.

Like a day each month



- Who must be in the room for contact.



Like

- the contact worker is in the room with you
- You will know who your contact worker is.

or

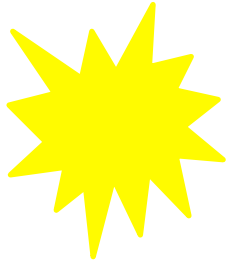


- there is **no** contact worker in the room.

It is only you and your child.

4. Other things important to you.

Like how your child



- learns about their culture. It may be
 - about important days
 - special places for you

and



- learns about your religion.

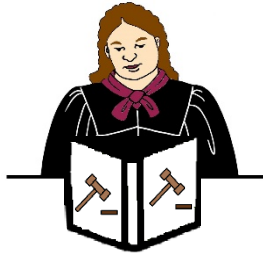
5. Your child's other needs.

Some children have

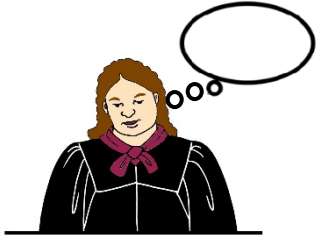


- more health needs. It may be asthma
- disability needs.

The Care Plan will talk about this too.



The magistrate reads the Care Plan.



The magistrate must work out



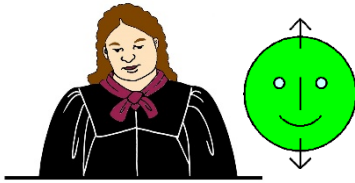
Is this Care Plan the best for **your child**?



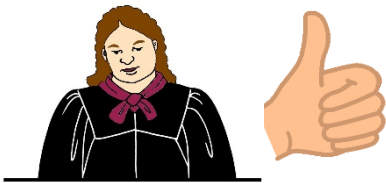
Yes. Go to page 12.



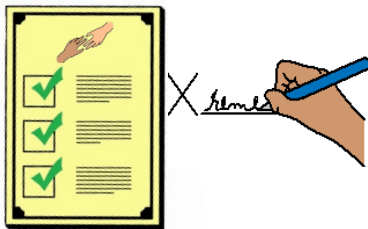
No. Go to page 13.



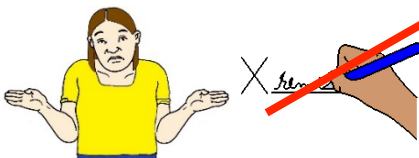
The magistrate says **yes** to the Care Plan.



The magistrate says it is best for your child.



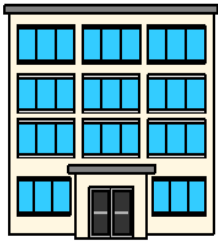
You do **not** have to sign the Care Plan.



Do **not** sign anything you do not understand.



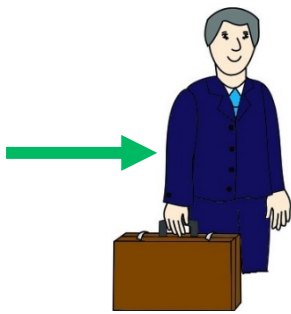
The magistrate says **no** to the Care Plan.



Community Services must make a
new Care Plan.



More information



This fact sheet is general information.

It may **not** be the same for you.

It is **not** legal advice.

Talk to a lawyer about

- your own child
- your family.

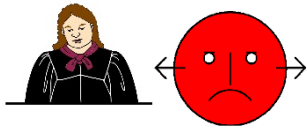


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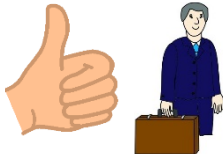
- The WASH House
- The Ability Rights Centre. A service of IDRS
with
- a Parent Advisory Group, 2020.

Images

We have used images from



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Access Easy English helped The WASH House

write the Easy English. March 2020.