

Carer Consultations (CCs)

[Part of SEEdS in the Virtual School]

Guidance for Carers and Professionals

What is a Carer Consultation?

A carer consultation (CC) is a problem-solving meeting. It involves the carer and an Educational Psychologist (EP) meeting with a foster carer, Special Guardian or parent to discuss a child/young person and any difficulties being experienced at home. The carer's fostering social worker will usually be included. Other adults who know the child* well, such as their Social Worker or family support worker, might also be invited.

What is the aim of the consultation meeting?

The meeting aims to clarify the nature of a child or young person's difficulties and to develop intervention strategies for the carer to use at home. We use a variety of psychological approaches and theories to inform our approach.

Does the Educational Psychologist meet the child?

Consultation will usually take place on the basis of the carer's and other adults' views and will not usually require the EP to have direct involvement with the child.

What happens after the meeting?

The EP will write a summary of the meeting and send a copy to all those present. Others involved may also receive a copy of the summary, with the permission of the child's social worker. All consultations are followed up with a review meeting, usually 3-6 weeks later. Sometimes further meetings are also planned. Sometimes Video interaction guidance (VIG) or a group problem solving meeting (GPS) may also be recommended following the meeting.



**'Child' is used to refer to a child or young person between 3 and 18 years of age.*

For further information please contact:

Ursula Beck - Educational Psychologist with Herefordshire SEEdS in the Virtual School:

ursula.beck@herefordshire.gov.uk