

If you have any questions you can ask your co-ordinator or advocate

Co-ordinator's details:

Advocate's details:

For more information and a DVD called "it's your meeting" please see camden.gov.uk/fgc

What if I don't like something about how I have been treated?

If you are unhappy about the way your FGC was organised or with the work of the co-ordinator, you can contact the FGC manager on **020 7974 2335** or **020 7974 1051**. You could also contact your co-ordinator, your advocate or your social worker. They will try to sort things out, but if they can't, they can help you make a complaint to Camden Council's children, schools and families department.

Contact details:

The Complaints Officer
FREEPOST RRAR-KKUL-RCEZ
London Borough of Camden
Children, Schools and Families Department
Crowndale Centre
218 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1BD

Phone: 020 7974 6673
Freephone: 0800 393 561
Email: children.complaints@camden.gov.uk

Camden Family Group Conference Service

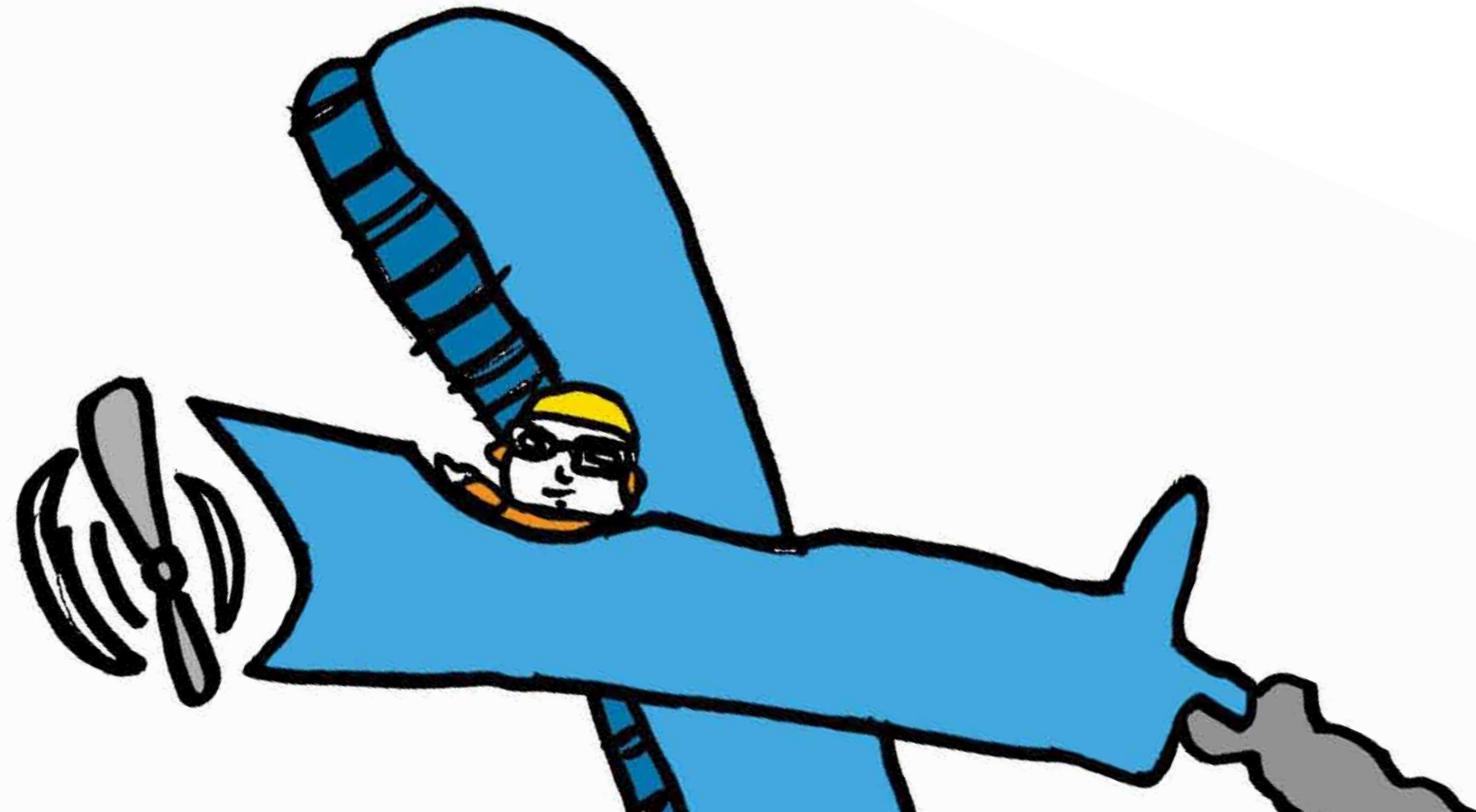
Family Services and Social Work
Children, Schools and Families
Crowndale Centre, 1st floor
218 Eversholt St
London NW1 1BD

camden.gov.uk/fgc



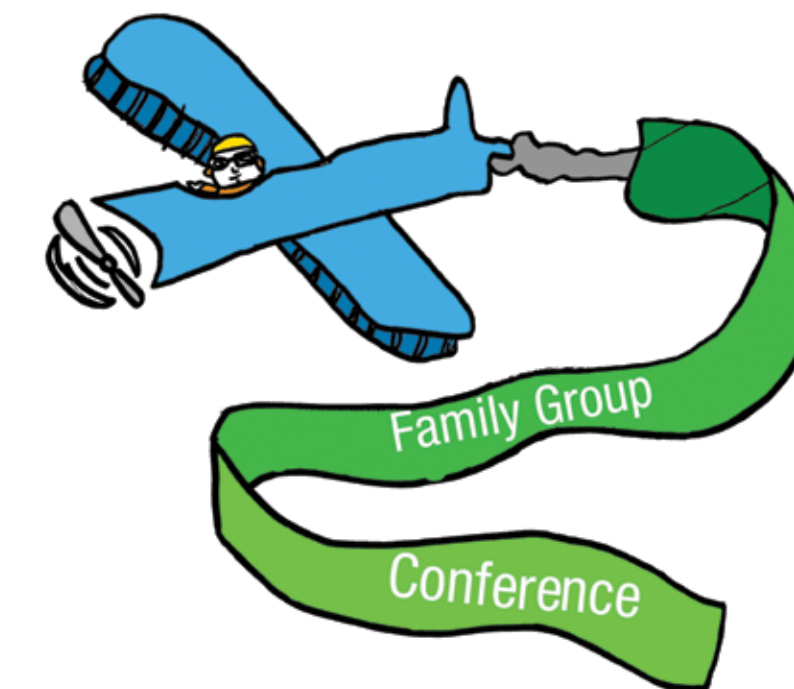
Published September 2010.

This leaflet was designed by young people who have participated in Camden FGCs.



Family Group Conference Service

A guide for children and young people





Camden Family Group Conference Service

A guide for children and young people

What is an FGC?

A Family Group Conference is a special meeting where families can get together to discuss any problems or concerns about a child. It's a chance to think about what is happening and **plan** to make things better.

FGCs are chaired by an independent **co-ordinator**. Independent means that they do not make any decisions in the way that a teacher or social worker would when they are working with your family. The co-ordinator will meet you and your family to plan and prepare for the meeting.

Why have an FGC?

Sometimes if workers are worried about a child and they need to know what to do to help them, they offer them and their family an FGC. This is because your family network can be the best people to work out what to do to help you. The FGC gives them a chance to sort out problems and make a plan that everyone agrees on.

Who usually comes to the meeting?

The best people will be those who know you and care about you, like your family, other relatives and friends and neighbours who feel like your family. These are the people who will know how to help you and what to do to make things better.

You help decide who gets invited to the meeting. However, sometimes we have to invite people who are the best people to help you.

This is a meeting like no other

This is your meeting. It allows you and your family to talk about things together and make plans for your future. You don't have to be part of the whole meeting.

It is important that you have your say although you do not have to. The co-ordinator will help you work out what you might like to say at your FGC. You will be offered an independent advocate who could help you express your wishes and feelings either in person or by a letter for the FGC.

What happens at the FGC?

The meeting is split into three parts and held in a comfortable space with refreshments. You can help to choose the food and drink that will be available.

Part 1

Information sharing

You, your family and the people who work with you will meet to discuss their concerns and what sort of help you and your family need. Everyone, including you, will have a chance to speak.

What happens at the FGC?

continued...

Part 2

Private family time

You, your family and friends will be left on your own, without the people who work with you, so that you can talk about the information that you heard in the first part and make plans together for you. The co-ordinator and other information givers stay in another room.

What happens at the FGC?

continued...

Part 3

Agreeing the plan

Your family will share the plan with others at the meeting, including the information givers who were there at the beginning of the meeting. The plan is usually agreed as long as what it says is needed and it is a safe plan for you and your family.