

Social Worker Visits

You must be visited by a social worker, who should see you on your own. The first visit should be within one week after the start of your placement.

You should be visited every 6 weeks during your first year in care.

After your first year you should be visited at least once every 3 months.

Other Rights

You should be given enough food, which is properly prepared and nutritious. You should be allowed to buy your own clothes, depending on your age and maturity with money. You must be allowed to practice your religion, including being given the right food and being allowed to wear suitable clothes.

Punishments and restraint

Your carer can use reasonable force to prevent immediate danger of physical injury to you or another person or to prevent damage to property. Your carers may punish you within reason. For example 2/3's of your pocket money may be used to pay for the cost of damage caused by you. Under no circumstance is violence permitted.

Complaints

You can complain about any of the care you are receiving and your social worker should show you how to do this.

Children's rights

The children's rights service is there if you are having problems or need help or advice. They are not social workers and are independent. He will not tell anyone else if you tell him something and want it kept between. If have a complaint they can support you or speak for you if you want.

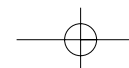
Youth Advocacy

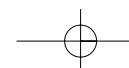
Youth Advocacy is Trafford's Children in Care Council. They campaign to make care better for children and young people. They meet during each school holiday and at other times. If you would like to join this group contact the children's rights service.



Children in Care Your Rights

Trafford Children and Young People's Service brings together council and health services to improve outcomes for children, young people, their families and schools.





Your care plan

- listen to you and take into account your views. They will give more importance to your views the older you get.
- take into account the views of your parents and any other people who are important in your life as well as taking into account your race, religion, culture and language.
- make a written care plan when you come into care. They must consult with you and your parents. You should be given a copy of your care plan in a way you understand.

Your Review

Social Services must hold a review for you within 4 weeks of you coming into care. The purpose of the review is to discuss your care plan and to update it. You should be invited to the meeting.

Being Moved

Social Services can't move you from your placement without getting your views and feelings about it first.

Education

You have a right to education. Social Services have a responsibility for making sure that you go to school or are educated in your placement.

Health

Once you are 16 you have the right to agree or disagree to medical treatment.

If you are under 16 you can agree or disagree if the doctor or nurse thinks you have 'sufficient understanding'. This means that you understand the good or bad things that could happen to you.

Your parents, Social Worker or the courts may override your refusal to have treatment. However this is likely to happen only if your life is in danger or if you have mental health problems.

Keeping in touch with family and friends

Social services must try to help you keep in touch with your parents and anyone else important in your life, unless they think that contact is harmful to you or possibly other children.

If you are on a Care Order, Social Services must allow you reasonable contact with your parents.

