Easy Read Information for Parents/Carers



Role of the Children's Reporter



Welcome

This information leaflet has been produced by the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration, sometimes called SCRA for short.

If there are concerns about your child they might be reported to a person called the Children's Reporter. If this happens, we want to make sure you have the right information and get all the help you need.

If you would like more information about Children's Hearings, we also have a number of easy read guide on our website www.scra.gov.uk

What does a Children's Reporter do?

A Children's Reporter (sometimes just called a Reporter) receives information (called referrals) about your child if there are concerns about:

- their safety
- their wellbeing and development
- if they have been in trouble with the police

The Reporter investigates these concerns and decides whether to arrange a Children's Hearing for your child.

If the Reporter decides to arrange a Children's Hearing they will send you an invitation letter to your child's Hearing. They will also send you a document which is called the statement of grounds.

At your child's Hearing

While you are at your child's Hearing, the Reporter is there to make a note of what happens. They also help to make sure that things are fair and comply with the law.

If your child's case is sent to Court, the Reporter will tell you the arrangements and attend Court.

You might need to come to more Children's Hearings. The Reporter will arrange these and let you know when they are.

You will be sent information

The Reporter will be able to give you information to help you and your child get the right support:

- before your child's Hearing
- during your child's Hearing
- after your child's Hearing

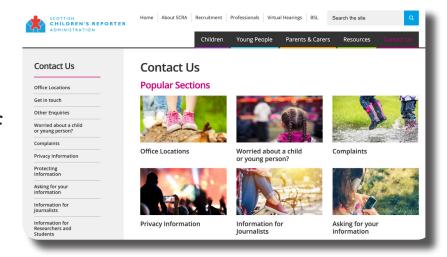
If there is something you don't understand, please talk to the Reporter or get someone to help you.

Contacting the Children's Reporter

You can contact the Reporter by phone or email – these will be on your letter sent to you.



Or, contact details for all of our offices can be found in the contact us section of our website.



Getting help

There's lots of people who can help you.

- You can talk to your social worker.
- You can get help from a lawyer. Visit the Scottish Legal Aid Board website or get someone to help you access the website.
- You can also contact Parentline by calling 08000 28 22 33 or visit their website.