

Child Friendly Scheduling

Information for professionals supporting children and young people

Children and young people have told us that better preparation for Hearings enables better participation and empowers them to take control of their Hearing.

At SCRA, we have made a commitment to make Hearings more child friendly. We want to offer children and young people a choice about the day, time and location of their Hearing, plus anything else that will make them better prepared and enable them to fully participate. We will do our very best to meet their needs.

To support better preparation, each of the points below should be discussed/considered each time a child comes to a Hearing.

Does the child have any special events/significant dates that we should avoid when arranging a Hearing?

Does the child wish to attend during school hours or after school hours?

Does the child wish to attend, either in person or virtually and if virtually where from/who will be supporting them?

Does the child know they can decide where they would like to sit and who they sit next to at the Hearing and that they can ask to speak to the Panel Members on their own?

Would the child like to attend a Pre-Hearing visit? We now send a Pre-Hearing invite to all children over 8 years who have not been to a Hearing before. Please note, the visit is voluntary and we can of course change the date and time to suit the child. They will also receive a Pre-Hearing pack with some information leaflets and the Hearing About Me form which is also available [online](#).

Has the child been shown the [Pre-Hearing visit film](#)?

Has the child been shown the short [video clips](#) of the Hearing centre or the [visual information guide](#)? If they are attending virtually, have they seen our [step by step guide](#) to virtual Hearings?

Has the child been told about [advocacy](#), how it can help and where to get an advocacy worker?

Please remember, there's lots more helpful information on our website:
www.scra.gov.uk

[Information for children](#)
[Information for young people](#)
[Information for parents/carers](#)

