

Advice to parents in relation to Children's Cared for Reviews during Covid-19 restrictions

Due to current restrictions at this time we are no longer able to hold face to face cared for review meetings for your children. We do still have a duty for these meetings to take place to ensure the wellbeing of your children and so we are exploring and trying different ways to complete their reviews.

We will be holding the meetings using a number of different options these may include, use of Skype, use of telephone conferencing calling or meeting via a Lync facility or apps such as WhatsApp or in some cases where IT facilities are limited we will ensure a series a telephone calls.

Wherever possible we will continue to obtain your children's views directly over the phone or via Skype ahead of the virtual meeting.

If you are unable to join the virtual meeting for any reason we will ensure you will receive a telephone call from your child's Independent Reviewing Officer so you will remain fully consulted in relation to the review of your child's care plan.

Where we can, we hope to be able to use a secure Email facility called Egress to provide you with a consultation form and the record of the meeting. If you have the ability to use this facility the instructions for installing this can be found at: <https://centranet.cheshireeast.gov.uk/how-do-i/data-protection-and-security/secure-email-guide/get-an-egress-switch-email-account.aspx>. This will allow us to send you the reports and records securely throughout the review process.

Where you have no access to Egress, you will still have a telephone consultation with the IRO and any record of the meeting will be sent to you retrospectively once restrictions are lifted.

We will cover all aspects of your children's care plan in the virtual cared for review but with particular attention as to how indirect contact with you will be promoted whilst face to face contact is suspended to ensure your child's needs for contact with you are being met meaningfully and as safely as possible.

We would want to reassure you that we are keeping these arrangements under review to ensure that as soon as face to face contact can resume safely, we will.