

Dursley and Cam Child Contact Centre

A safe neutral place where a child can enjoy uninterrupted contact with the parent(s) they no longer live with.

We offer a breathing space and a stepping stone for parents to work out future arrangements once they move on from the contact centre.

We welcome enquiries from volunteers to support the contact sessions.



What is it like at the Child Contact Centre?

At the Cam and Dursley Child Contact Centre there is a large room with a variety of games, toys, books, arts and crafts for children of all ages.

The centre is open every other Saturday afternoon for supported contact between 2pm and 4pm. The centre is run by trained volunteers who are impartial and do not get involved in disputes between parents. They work to a confidentiality policy and have all been DBS checked.

Contact is arranged following a referral from a solicitor or parents themselves.

Supported contact is when several parents are using the centre at the same time with staff on hand to offer support. This form of contact is appropriate when there has been a breakdown in communication and trust between parents.

No record is kept of the session apart from noting the dates and times of attendance unless there has been a risk of harm to a child or parent or member of staff.

Handovers

These take place at the centre. If the parents do not want to meet one another then a member of staff will take the child from one parent to the other.

Will I have to see my ex-partner at the centre?

No. We ask the parent coming for contact to be at the centre for 1.45pm. And the parent bringing the child to arrive at 2pm prompt.

What else do I need to know?

- The safety and well being of the child is the parent's responsibility.
- Children are not to be left in the care of the centre staff.
- A child can only be taken out of the centre if this is agreed by both parents and the centre staff.

For all contact sessions...

- Don't argue in front of the children. Any abuse, aggressive or offensive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be admitted.
- Other relatives can only take part in the contact if named on the referral form and agreed by both parents.
- Please understand the contact centre is to be seen as a temporary arrangement.