



TOP TIPS

For working with Children and Young People

The FJYPB have devised 10 top tips for family court advisors working with children and young people in the family courts to encourage best practice.

1

- The child or young person should be consulted about the timing and venue of any meetings held with them.

2

- Every child or young person should have sufficient time to build a relationship with the Cafcass worker involved in their case.

3

- The child or young person should feel that their needs, wishes and feelings have been listened to, valued and respected.

4

- Children and young people should be offered the opportunity to express their wishes and feeling using effective and age appropriate tools and resources that best meet their needs.

5

- Every child or young person should have clear contact details for their Cafcass worker including office address, telephone number and email address.

6

- Every child or young person should have the opportunity through the Cafcass worker of submitting their views directly to the judge in writing.

7

- Children and young people should be kept informed about the court proceedings in an age appropriate manner.

8

- For Cafcass workers to give consideration to the sibling relationship (inclusive of step and half siblings whom the child may or may not reside with).

9

- Do not use jargon – make language clear, understandable and age appropriate and use methods of communication that children and young people are used to.

10

- Every child or young person should have the opportunity to give feedback on family justice services.