



Cafcass National Office
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21 Bloomsbury Street
London
WC1B 3HF

Your ref: CAF 16-8
Our ref: Gov/CAF 16-8

Tel 0300 456 4000

28 January 2016

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 25 January 2016. You made the following requests for information:

I have been told that a wishes and feelings report will need to be done for my child and would like to know how this is carried out?

Will you come to both mine and my ex partner's home? Will we come to you? Will both parties know when the meetings are being held? If yes / no why is it important that they know this information? Will you visit my child at school?

Please note that under Freedom of Information we can provide you with information which is already recorded, such as information within policies and procedures. Responses cannot be given in relation to specific cases. Any specific queries in relation to a case can be responded to by the allocated practitioner (Family Court Adviser), who will arrange the relevant interviews and complete the report to court; they will be able to answer your questions. Please see below for our general policies and procedures.

Please see the Cafcass [Operating Framework](#) (sections 4.19-4.24) which sets out what Cafcass practitioners should have regard to when working on a [section 7 report](#) (which can include a wishes and feelings report).

Cafcass practitioners also use a [standard form](#) of report which provides template headings for each subsection. All Cafcass recommendations are based on professional judgement of how a child's welfare can best be promoted and safeguarded, with reference to the [Welfare Checklist](#), and all recommendations are case specific.

In the absence of a specific direction from the court, practitioners will determine who needs to be interviewed, how many times and where. The needs and circumstances of each individual case will determine the nature and extent of the enquiries made by

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Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive





the practitioner, depending on how each practitioner has planned to carry out their work of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the child.

For further details, please see the following sections within the [Operating Framework](#):

- Section 1.16-20 'Working with children and young people'
- Section 1.21-22 'Seeing children'
- Section 1.23-29 'Working with parents and carers'
- Section 2.21-23 'Visiting children'
- Section 2.24-25 'Interviewing'

We hope that you feel your question has been answered effectively. If you are unhappy with the decisions made in relation to your request, you may ask for an internal review to be undertaken. If you are dissatisfied with the way the internal review is handled or with the final decision made at that review about the information released, you are free to contact the Information Commissioner's office (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk):

Post

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Fax

01625 524 510

Tel

0303 123 1113

E-mail

casework@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Governance Team

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