

What Lifelong Links meant to me: Sandy's story



<https://youtu.be/HAtL18zS3J4>

6. If you want them to, your Lifelong Links Coordinator will arrange a Lifelong Links meeting with the people who care about you and the people you want to reconnect with.

You will be able to make decisions about who you want to invite and where you want to hold your meeting.

Remember

It is your choice. Lifelong Links will only happen with your agreement.

You can change your mind at any time.

What will happen at your Family Group Conference?

You will be able to talk about and what you need.

Your Lifelong Links Co-Ordinator will help you, your family and friends to plan how they will support you.

Your social worker will be asked to agree the plan.

Your Lifelong Links Plan will become part of your care or pathway plan.

What can I do to prepare for my meeting with my Lifelong Links Coordinator?

You may want to make a note of any questions that you would like to ask your Lifelong Links Coordinator when you meet.



What is Lifelong Links and how does it work?



What is Lifelong Links?

Lifelong Links helps to find family and friends who you care about.

This could be people you already know well, people you have not seen for a while (like a former teacher or carer), and even relatives you have not yet met.

You can learn about your family history.

Lifelong Links can bring together people you want in your life and people who you can turn to for support as you grow up.

Click on the link to the You Tube video below to find out more.



https://youtu.be/gMmgwL_-YB8

What happens next?

1. Your social worker will talk to you to:

- Explain what Lifelong Links is
- Share with you why they think Lifelong Links might be something you may want to take part in
- Listen to how you feel about it
- Answer any of your questions.

2. Your social worker will ask you to sign something to say that you agree to someone from the Lifelong Links Team contacting you and to say that your social worker can share key relevant personal information about you with that person.

Remember: you can change your mind at any time.

3. Your social worker will also need to get consent from those people who have parental responsibility for you*.
* This is the person/s who can legally make important decisions for you.

4. We'll give you a Lifelong Links Coordinator.

Your Lifelong Links Co-Ordinator will message you to introduce themselves.

A few days later, they will message you again to ask you if you would like to meet with them.

5. Your Lifelong Links Co-Ordinator will:

- Talk to you about the people who are important to you.
- Discuss with you and your social worker to decide who you would like to have contact with.
- See if they can find these people.
- Complete activities with you to help you learn more about your background.