

What will happen after the assessment?

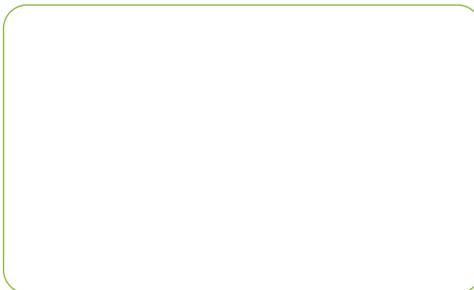
When your assessment finishes:

1. The Home on Time social worker will write a detailed report explaining the work you have taken part in and the progress you have made.
2. Your social worker will share the report with you.
3. You will be invited to a meeting, known as a Looked after Child Review, which will carefully consider the report and decide where your child should live.
4. If it is decided that your child can live with you, there will be a plan for him/her to return to your care. You will continue to have social work support for as long as this is needed.
5. If it is decided that it is not safe for your child to live with you, your social worker will ask the Court to make a legal order to allow the concurrent carers to adopt your child.
6. You will continue to be supported and social workers will consider whether it is possible for you to have contact with your child after adoption.
7. You will also be asked to share information about yourself and your family for your child so they grow up knowing about you.



How do I contact the Home on Time team?

Details of the Home on Time workers are as follows:



HOME ON TIME
Placing children
through concurrent care
Information for Parents



What is Home on Time?

Home on Time is a concurrent care programme which aims to reduce the length of time young children spend in foster care and the number of moves they have to make.

What is concurrent care?

Concurrent care means that there are two possible long term plans for a child in the care of social services. One plan is for the child to return to the care of parent/s or another family member and if this is not possible, the other plan is that the child will remain with their carers and be adopted by them. Concurrent carers are approved as foster carers and as adoptive parents so if the child can not be returned to their family, he/she does not have to have another move and will be adopted by the carers.

Why have I been referred to Home on Time?

You have been referred to Home on Time for two reasons:

1. There are very serious concerns about your ability to care for your child. These concerns are known to social workers either because you have older children in care or adopted or because you have serious difficulties in your life at present.
2. Your social worker believes you may be able to deal with your difficulties and make the changes necessary to allow your child to be returned to your care.

Home on Time will offer you the chance to learn new skills and take part in a detailed assessment to see if your child can return safely to your care.

What do I have to do?

The Home on Time Social Worker and Family Support Worker will work together to support you to make changes to your life. But, you must be committed to making these changes, to taking part in the assessment fully and to staying in contact with your child. This will mean that you will be working with the Home on Time team up to four days a week for several hours at a time over a number of months. It is very important that you attend every session with the workers and that you do not miss contact visits with your child.



Where will my child be during the assessment?

Your child will be placed with carers who have been specially trained and assessed to provide a concurrent care placement. You will have the chance to meet with the carers before your child is placed so you can get to know them.

Will I have contact with my child?

The carers will bring the child to contact with you and you can hear how he/she is doing. Contact with your child will allow you to carry out child care tasks like feeding and changing your child. You will be supported and guided with this which will be an important part of your assessment.

What will my child's legal position be?

Because of the serious concerns that led to your referral to Home on Time, your social worker will ask the Court to decide if a legal order is required. The Court will also want to be updated on how you are doing in your assessment so there will be regular reviews.