



CAFCASS

children and family court advisory and support services

Who are they?

- Represent the interests of children and young people in family court cases
- Independently advise the family courts about what is safe for the children and what is in their best interest
- Focus on the child's needs and wishes and feelings, making sure the child's voices are heard and at the heart of the family courts thinking and decision making
- dedicated to improving the lives of children, families and carers

Section 7

- A court may request a section 7 report to assist them in reaching a decision on a child proceedings case concerning the welfare of the child
- The report will assist the court in considering a family dispute between the parents and determining an outcome of the dispute
- A section 7 report is needed in matters such as a child arrangement order, prohibited steps order and a specific issue order
- The report will contain background information, key facts and the child's needs and wishes in accordance with the welfare checklist.
- The child will be interviewed independently and the parents individually as well.

What do they do?

- They work in three main areas: divorce and separation and where parents or carers cannot agree on arrangements for their children
- Care proceedings where the local authority has serious concerns about the safety or welfare of a child
- Adoption

CCLP
Chester Community
Law Project

 University of
Chester

contact info:

cafcass call centre: 0300 456 4000

text:07488881600

website: www.cafcass.gov.uk

