



# TOP TIPS

## For Social Workers engaging with Children and Young People



The FJYPB have devised these top tips for social workers who work and engage with children and young people in the family courts to encourage best practice.

1. Schedule our meetings around my available time not yours.
2. Respect my privacy.
3. See me as an individual person not just another case for you.
4. Don't be too professional all the time, relax and talk to me in a friendly way.
5. Don't be two faced, what you tell me should be what you tell others. Be honest with me!
6. Remember important dates and achievements for me, don't just get in touch with me for reviews and meetings.
7. Be approachable and easy to contact, give me your contact details and get back to me if I contact you.
8. Please do share my information if you are having to hand over to another social worker. The things that are important to me can often get lost.
9. Please do read my case file before we meet. I understand you will want to know things in my own words, but do not ask me to keep repeating myself.
10. Please don't just turn up at school to see me, ask me if its ok first. I should always know when are where we are meeting.
11. Not everyone involved in my life needs to know everything, please ask me for permission of who I want to know.
12. Keep me updated on changes that affect my life including court dates.
13. Treat siblings as separate individuals, I may not share the same opinion as my brother or sister.
14. Make sure I really understand what is happening and what are the possible options for me.
15. Have patience with me, I may not be ready to share everything the first few times we meet.