



Child & Youth Voice Conversation Sheet

A planning sheet for adults preparing to hear from a child or youth about a kinship-care decision. It is not a clinical interview, forensic interview or substitute for a legal process.

Before talking with the child

- ☐ Is this a question the child actually needs to be asked?
- ☐ Can the child answer without being made responsible for the final adult decision?
- ☐ Who is the safest and most appropriate person to have the conversation?
- ☐ Does the child need an interpreter, disability accommodation or cultural support?
- ☐ Have we explained what will happen with what the child says and any limits to confidentiality?

Use open, non-leading prompts

- ☐ What is going well for you right now?
- ☐ What is hard or worrying right now?
- ☐ Who are the people you want to stay connected with?
- ☐ What helps you feel safe and settled?
- ☐ What would you like adults to understand before they make this decision?
- ☐ Is there anything you do not want to talk about today?



Recording the child's views without turning them into a vote

Write what the child said as accurately as possible. Separate the child's words from adult interpretation. A child's views matter, but adults remain responsible for safety and lawful decision-making.

Date

Who spoke with the child

Context / decision being discussed

Child or youth's main points

What adults still need to decide or assess

Remember

PEI's Child, Youth and Family Services Act includes the child's views and preferences among the best-interest factors, with weight appropriate to age and maturity. Family-law processes may also provide formal ways for a child's views to be heard.