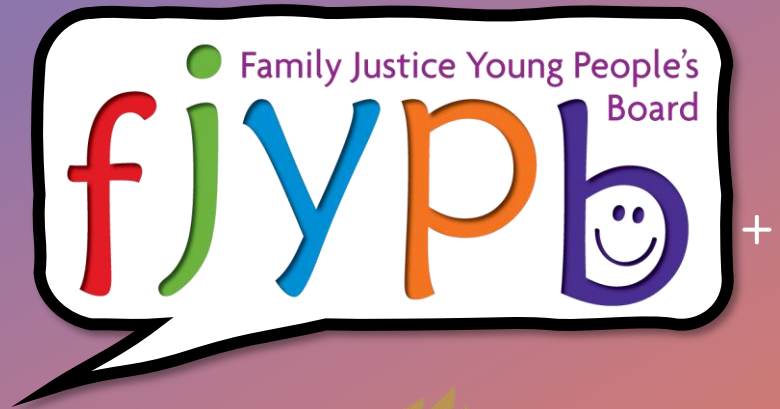


# FJYYPB Update

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021





# Voice of the Child

Our Voice of the Child webinars are just around the corner and we are very much looking forward to professionals from across the Family Justice System joining our 2<sup>nd</sup> year of virtual webinars!

The theme for the webinars is **Communication** and its importance in relation to working with children and young people who have experience of family court proceedings.

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# Celebrating 10 years of the FJYPB!







On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September, we kicked the week off with an introduction of what this week was about.



We released a video on Tuesday explaining how the board came to be and some of our best achievements.



On Wednesday, Aleesha spoke about what diversity means to her as a member of the FJYPB.



On Thursday we shared some messages from our stakeholders featuring Jacky Tiotto, Nigel Brown, Sir Andrew McFarlane and Sophie Humphries.

Finally, on Friday we shared some of the reasons we joined the FJYPB, our favourite memories and what we would like to achieve in the next decade.



What we  
would like  
from the  
next 10  
years

Working with military families more.

I would also like to see a more diverse Cafcass Board.

To grow and grow. To champion change and make a positive input of the thousands.

I hope the FJYPB works more on helping eradicate unconscious / conscious biases and microaggressions in family justice.

Make more books and reach out to young people.

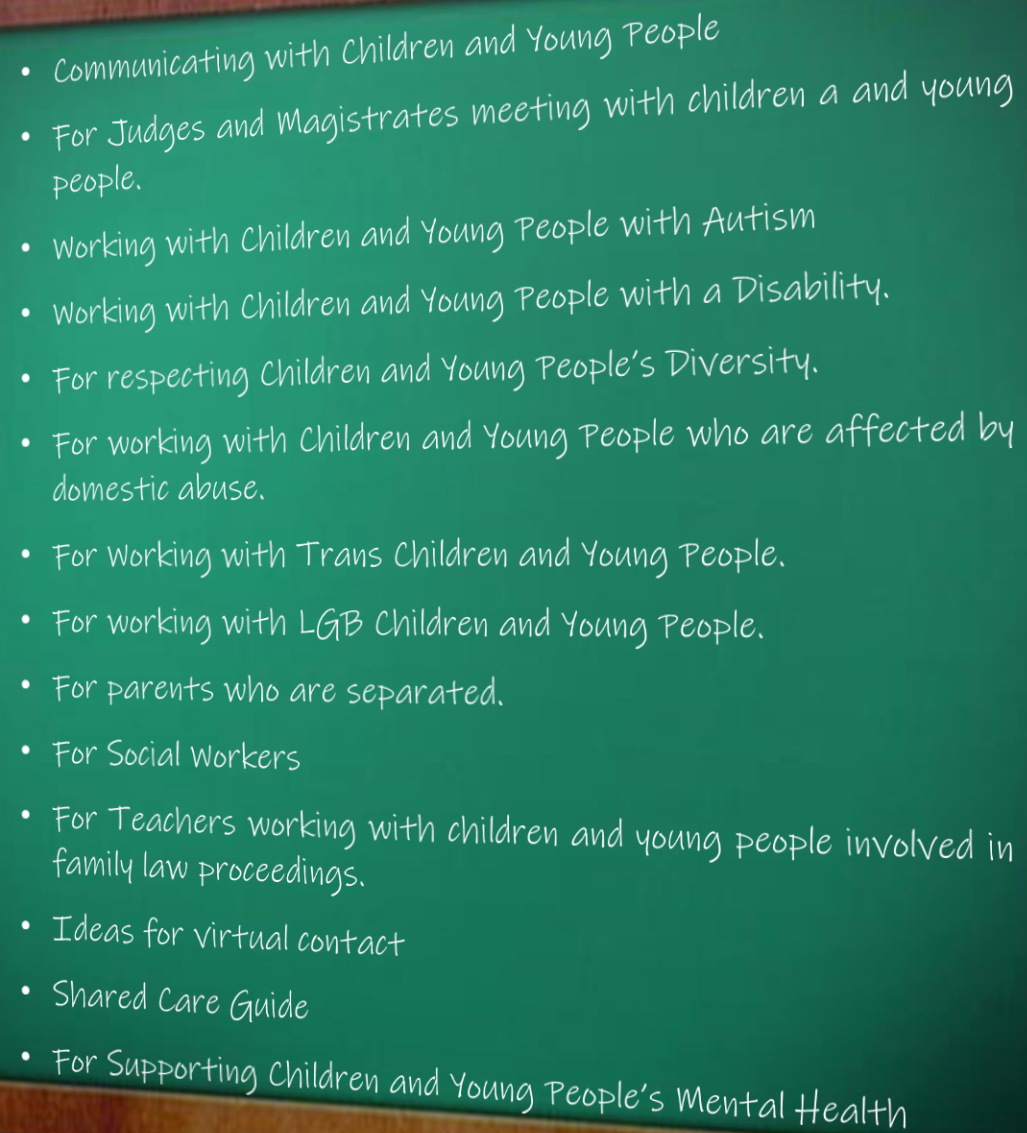
In the following years of the FJYPB I want them to reach out to more and all children across the UK who are in difficult times and need support.

**FJYPB Top Tips are now available in the top 10 languages spoken by families who work with Cafcass! These are:**

- Polish (Poland)
- Urdu (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)
- French (France)
- Turkish (Turkey)
- Gujarati (India)
- Arabic (Egypt)
- Spanish (Spain)
- Italian (Italy)
- Russian (Russia)
- Bangla (Bangladesh)

**We have also created two new Top Tips resources:**

- **A guide for shared care**
- **Supporting children and young people's mental health**

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- Communicating with Children and Young People
  - For Judges and Magistrates meeting with children and young people.
  - Working with Children and Young People with Autism
  - Working with Children and Young People with a Disability.
  - For respecting Children and Young People's Diversity.
  - For working with Children and Young People who are affected by domestic abuse.
  - For Working with Trans Children and Young People.
  - For working with LGB Children and Young People.
  - For parents who are separated.
  - For Social Workers
  - For Teachers working with children and young people involved in family law proceedings.
  - Ideas for virtual contact
  - Shared Care Guide
  - For Supporting Children and Young People's Mental Health





## FJYPB Communications

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The business case for our very own FJYPB website has been approved! We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to Cafcass for all your help and support with this project.

# FJYPB and Cafcass



# Importance of showing your workings out

With Jacky, Ellie and Flora

Show me leaping from the file!

Thanks for your wording changes!



**NO JARGON!**

Case  
Child's case  
Blah blah acronym...  
Party Sibling  
Blah blah...

**MIND YOUR LANGUAGE**

**BUSTED**

~~maternal~~  
Paternal

'problem child'



**CLEAR REASONING**

**CHILD'S FILE**

**MAKE SURE IT'S ACCURATE!**



It's important to capture your journey with Cafcass & Support you along the way!

**EQUALITY DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**

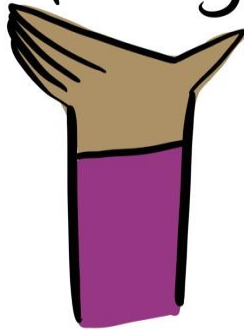


- Don't make me feel uncomfortable
- Find common ground



**THINK** - WHAT IS RELEVANT?  
**EXPLAIN** - WHY YOU ARE ASKING THESE QUESTIONS  
**ASK** - ASK OPEN QUESTIONS  
 - BE RESPECTFUL

Please Support me during my proceedings



On the FJYPB part of site  
**TOP TIPS**  
 We have so many!  
 Please look at them! Also good for parents!

**Q&A**

How to complete a child's plan when they are babies?  
 Be honest + give as much info as possible

How would you like to be introduced?  
 By my name & a hard copy of a letter is reassuring

Have you read your files?  
 YES  
 My file read well  
 "Ellie thinks x y z"  
 They'd paid attention  
 Flora - I'm too young to have read it

How to get more feedback?  
 Use an App? Anything else?  
 website chatbox  
 Remind often!

Brother + sister?  
 Or sibling?  
 Ask the child what they prefer!

Let us know what we can change

OK!

**If we could change 1 thing? Explain early, be clear, and repeat often!**



- **Case** - replaced with **child's case, child's story or child's journey**
- **Case plan** – to be replaced with **Child's Plan**
- **Case file** - to be replaced with **child's file or children's file**
- **Caseload** - to say **I have responsibility for a number of families / I have a number of families I am working with**

**Sibling** - this to be replaced with brother or sister. This includes half-brother/sister and step-brother/sister.

The word 'sibling' may need to be used initially in a court report to explain to the court the relationship. However, we ask that throughout the court report, file recording, emails and when speaking to the child or other professionals that you then use the term brother / sister or even better their name. Remember to ask the child how they refer to their brothers and sisters so that you can refer to them in the same way.



**BUSTED**

Labels are for jars,  
not for people!

## **TOTALLY BUSTED – ‘Problem child’**

Replace this with an explanation of what the child is struggling with and how the child may be feeling and their response to this. Consider who the problem is for – is the child causing problems for themselves or someone/something else? Use this information to explain what the child is experiencing, not to label them as the problem.

Also consider other phrases similar to this that could be hurtful for a child to read, such as ‘putting themselves at risk’ or ‘beyond parental control.’



**BUSTED**

*A party should be something to celebrate and enjoy!*



## **BUSTED WITH EXPLANATION – ‘Party’**

Think about how to explain this word in a child friendly way. For example, a party is someone who is formally involved in the court process. Tell me who these people are.

Consider other legal words that might also need to be explained to me, such as applicant or respondent. These words should only be used at the beginning of a report and afterwards only refer to people by their names or relationship with me.

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# Coming Up...

**Cafcass 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event** – We are very much looking forward to speaking at the Cafcass live virtual event on 27 October to celebrate 20 years of Cafcass and our work together over the years.

**The President's Conference** – FJYPB members Lisa, Andrew and Katie will be presenting on mental health and the wellbeing of children and young people in family proceedings at the Presidents Conference in Northamptonshire on 21<sup>st</sup> October.

**Social Work England** – Following a workshop in June on Continuing Professional Development, we have been in regular contact with Social Work England to discuss how we can work together to include the perspective of children and young people in their work.

**FDAC Workshop** – On 1<sup>st</sup> November, we will be hosting a workshop with representatives from a Family Drug and Alcohol Court to produce a guide for children and young people who become involved with FDACs.



# Our challenges to you




Our busted words are removed from Cafcass communications.



For Cafcass Board members to consider how they use the values of Together in their work.



The Cafcass Board to identify their three top priorities for the FJYPB to work with Cafcass on.







Contact us  
FJYPB@cafcass.gov.uk

