



What will the Forum do with my information?

Your information is important. It will help us to show what happened to children in institutional care in Scotland in the past.

It will help increase public understanding of what it was like to be in institutional care as a child. It will also let us recommend ways of making institutional care safer for children and young people in Scotland now and in the future.

KEEPING YOUR INFORMATION SAFE AND SECURE

The Forum handles all information safely and stores it securely, in line with Data Protection rules. We will not share your information with anyone else – unless the law says we must.

View our Confidentiality and Privacy Policy at www.nationalconfidentialforum.org.uk or speak with us on Freephone **0800 121 4773** or on **0141 352 2333**.




We understand that **sharing your experiences** can be a big step.

If you'd like to speak with us about taking part in the Forum, please call us on Freephone **0800 121 4773** or on **0141 352 2333**.

You can also email us at information@nationalconfidentialforum.org.uk

To find out more about the Forum, go to our website.

www.nationalconfidentialforum.org.uk



Your childhood experiences of institutional care can now be heard.



National Confidential Forum

A chance to be heard

www.nationalconfidentialforum.org.uk

What is the National Confidential Forum?

The National Confidential Forum is a forum for those who spent time in institutional care in Scotland as children. It offers the chance to be heard and to share their experiences, whatever they are.

As well as helping looked-after children now and in the future, sharing these experiences can be therapeutic and make a positive difference to you too.

If you want to take part, we will listen to what you want to say in a safe and non - judgemental environment.

Who can take part in the Forum?

If you are older than 16 and have left institutional care, you can take part – and it doesn't matter how long you were in care, or when you left it.

There are many types of institution, for example children's homes, children's hospital wards and boarding schools, but they do not include foster care or kinship care.

For further information on the type of institutions covered, please visit www.nationalconfidentialforum.org.uk or call the Forum on Freephone **0800 121 4773** or on **0141 352 2333**.

HELPING YOU DECIDE

If you do decide to take part, we can also put you in contact with organisations who can provide further advice and guidance and direct you towards support.

How do the hearings work?

The Forum is based in central Glasgow, and your hearing will take place in a safe, private room where you'll be listened to by two Forum members.

Here you can speak freely about your experiences of institutional care, including any abuse you suffered and how it was dealt with at the time if you wish. This is called your testimony. It is not a court and lawyers do not take part.

You can bring up to two people with you to support you. This could include family members and friends.

We will pay all travel expenses, but if you can't travel the Forum will try to make arrangements that suit you. You can also give your testimony in writing if you can't attend a hearing in person.