

# WORKING WITH POLICE

## *A checklist for parents and caregivers*

**You don't need to know what to ask. Start here.**

Check the questions that matter to you and use the spaces below to record the information you want to remember.

### BEFORE YOU SPEAK WITH POLICE

- ☐ Write down what your child told you, as closely as possible in their own words.
- ☐ Don't ask your child to repeat or practise their story.
- ☐ Don't try to fill in missing details.
- ☐ Don't confront the person your child identified.
- ☐ Tell police about any communication, developmental, sensory or accessibility needs your child has.

### QUESTIONS I CAN ASK

#### **About my child**

- ☐ What should I tell my child about the interview?
- ☐ Where will the interview happen and who will conduct it?
- ☐ Can I be with my child before and after the interview?
- ☐ What happens if my child becomes overwhelmed or doesn't want to talk?
- ☐ What accommodations can be made for my child's needs?
- ☐ What should I do if my child tells me something new?

#### **About the investigation**

- ☐ What happens next?
- ☐ Are Children's Aid or other professionals involved?
- ☐ Is there anything I should or shouldn't do while the investigation is underway?
- ☐ What should we do if the person identified tries to contact my child or our family?
- ☐ How will I know if charges are laid—or if they aren't?
- ☐ Are Victim Services or other supports available to us?

### MY POLICE CONTACT

**Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Badge #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone/email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Case/occurrence #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**When should I expect to hear from police again?** \_\_\_\_\_

### BEFORE I LEAVE

- ☐ I know who my police contact is.
- ☐ I have the case/occurrence number.
- ☐ I know what happens next.
- ☐ I know approximately when I should expect an update.
- ☐ I know who to contact if I have questions or my child tells me something new.

**My next step:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Something I still want to ask:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **You don't have to solve everything today.**

Support your child. Keep them safe. Let the professionals investigate.

#### **Need more information?**

Scan the QR code to read *Working With Police* in **The Resource Project**.