

Social Work Department - Child Care History

PIN: 106408 Name: HODGE, MARY Date of Birth: 25-MAY-1989

Care Episodes

Entry Date	Admission Type	Team
09-JUN-2003	SECOND & SUBSEQUENT LOOKED AFTER EPISOD	C&F CARE MGT/ASSESS TM3 (CDB)
Discharged	Reason	
27-APR-2005	CARE TAKEN OVER BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN	

Care Placements

Placement Date	Carer Name	Resource Type	End Date
10-SEP-2004	BOSTOCK, SINDY	FOSTER CARERS	27-APR-2005
09-JUN-2003	DICK, KATRINA	RELATIVES	10-SEP-2004

Legal Statutes

Date	Legal Statute	Primary Reason	End Date
09-JUN-2003	SECTION 25	FAMILY NEEDING HELP - CHILD AT	27-APR-2005

Social Work Department - Child Care History

PIN: 106408 Name: HODGE, MARY Date of Birth: 25-MAY-1989

Care Episodes

Entry Date	Admission Type	Team
07-NOV-2000	FIRST LOOKED AFTER EPISODE	C&F CARE MGT/ASSESS TM3 (CDB)

Discharged	Reason
01-FEB-2001	CARE TAKEN OVER BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Care Placements

Placement Date	Carer Name	Resource Type	End Date
07-NOV-2000	DONALDSON, ALLAN	FOSTER CARERS	01-FEB-2001

Legal Statutes

Date	Legal Statute	Primary Reason	End Date
07-NOV-2000	SECTION 25	FAMILY NEEDING HELP - MISUSE O	01-FEB-2001

REFERRAL TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES RESOURCE MEETING

Social Worker: Julie Murray

Team/Office Base: Cowdenbeath **Tel No:** 01383 313233

Name of Child: Mary Hodge **DOB:** 25.05.89

Home Address:

Date of Referral: 08.09.03

Currently Residing: 16 Morris Avenue, Lochgelly

Education Provision: Lochgelly High School

Family Composition:	Relationship:	School/Work:	DOB/Age:
Ann Lambert	Mother		
Demi Lambert	Half-sister		
John Hodge	Father		

REFERRAL FOR:

Planned "Looked After" Placement (please tick):	Foster: ☒ Possibly	Residential:	Other eg: Outreach
Review of Placement Allocated at Emergency Admission:		Yes	
Respite Care for Birth Family:		No	
Place Request Due to:			
Placement Breakdown/Transfer		Yes	
Carer's Notice		No	
Child's Notice		No	
Respite for Carer		No	
Decision of Children's Hearing		Yes/No	
Emergency		Yes	
Current Legal Status (at time of referral):		Section 25 Children (Scotland) Act Hearing on 18.09.03	
Date Placement Needed:	Possibly 11.09.03	Expected Length of Placement:	Long-term
Child/Young Person's View of Placement Request: Fairly positive understands reasons.			

APPENDIX

Child's Profile:

- 1. Summary of CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY – Include all significant events eg: length of time known to the Service, separations from family, disrupted family relationships, known concerns or abuse, previous Legal Orders or Child Protection Registration.**

Mary has been known to Cowdenbeath Children and Families since 1996. In November, 2000 Mary was accommodated after her relationship with her mother deteriorated. She resided in foster care until February, 2001. Mary returned to the care of her mother though soon moved to the care of her father. This arrangement lasted until approximately March, 2003 when Mr. Hodge stated he was unable to look after Mary as she was defying his attempts to control her. Mary moved to her mother's for several weeks before moving to reside with distance relatives. This broke down beginning of June, 2003 when Mary was accommodated with Katrina Dick, Childminder. A family group meeting has been organised for 10th September, 2003.

Child/Young Person's Profile:

- 2(a) Describe briefly the positive aspects of child/young person's development, to identify what every member of the Team involved with this placement will need to know.**

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | Mary can be very pleasant company. |
| 2. | Mary has a lovely singing voice. |
| 3. | Mary, with some prompting, is able to voice her thoughts, feelings and opinions. |
| 4. | Mary has some insight into the effects of drugs and talks negatively re them. |

- 2(b) Outline the child's general health and state of physical development eg: enuresis, medical problems, medication.**

Mary enjoys good health and to my knowledge has no outstanding medical appointments/issues.

2(c) COGNITIVE: Assess level of cognitive development.

Despite her life experiences Mary's cognitive development appears age appropriate. She is a clever young person who is capable of achieving good exam results.

2(d) HOME & FAMILY: Everything to do with the child's parents, brothers and sisters, extended family, family patterns, child/young person's feelings towards family.

Mary has an older brother who she lived with until he moved out of his mother's care. Mary appears to have a positive relationship with her brother, although she has not had face to face contact with him she has spoken to him on the telephone within the last few months. Mary has a younger sister who lives with her mother. Mary can be very protective over Demi.

2(e) SOCIAL SKILLS: Describe the child/young person's ability or inability to make satisfying relationships with people their own age and with adults.

Mary is able to build positive relationships with both adults and teenagers. Mary appears older than her years and can therefore be in a circle of friends older than her.

Mary has built a very positive relationship with Kate the childminder who she is staying with.

2(f) BEHAVIOUR: Describe any behavioural problems.

Mary likes to think she is older beyond her years. She can be a very strong willed young person who often knows what she wants. Mary has spoken negatively about drink and drugs but the people she is hanging about with are known to misuse both drink and drugs.

2(g) PERSONAL: All problems which suggest a fragile sense of self eg: high anxiety, phobias, low tolerance of frustration, low self-esteem, denial of family background, culture of skin colour.

Mary has experienced rejection from Mary's family members. She tests their boundaries and according to family members "push them to the limit". This has been discussed and the fact Mary is crying out for someone to love her unconditionally and not to reject her. Mary idolises her dad – however he does not see this.

3. OTHER MATCHING CONSIDERATIONS:

Is there any reason why the child should not be placed as near as possible to home?

Please tick: Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please explain:

Which school does the child attend: Lochgelly High School

Is he/she currently excluded: No.

If so, what educational provisions are made:

Does the child/young person need:

	Yes	No	Specify if necessary
Own Room?	√		
Special Diet?		√	
Regular Medication?		√	
To be the only child in the household?		√	Mary is very patient and good with younger children
Continued attendance at current school?	√		
Attendance at Rimbleton House School?		√	
Special requirement regarding animals?		√	
Access to groups/clubs leisure activities?			Preferably
Special requirements regarding disability?		√	
Other eg: small groups, religion, education?		√	

4. FORTHCOMING DATES:

Planned Meeting:

Child in Care Review:

Children's Hearing: 18th September, 2003

Court Hearing: N/A

Other: Family Group Meeting 10th September, 2003

REFERRAL PROCESS

1. Has the referral been made at the request of:

Children's Hearing *No* Not at present

Child in Care Review *Yes/No*

2. Manager who has ratified the Referral:

3. Who has been involved in completing this referral:

	Yes	No
Social Worker	√	
Current Carer/Parent/Residential Staff	√	
Child/Young Person	√	
Other (please specify)	Family Group Meeting	

Please comment if any of the above do not support this referral:

If Mary's family do not have a plan after the family meeting Mary will require long-term fostering.

Signature: _____ **Date:** 09.09.03

FIFE COUNCIL

**SOCIAL WORK SERVICE
70 STENHOUSE STREET
COWDENBEATH
(Fax No. 01383 313293)**

TO: Resource Group Meeting, St Olaf's, Kirkcaldy
FROM: Julie Murray, Social Worker, Children and Families Team,
706 3278
DATE: 8 July 2003
OUR REF: JM/KH
**SUBJECT: UPDATE MARY HODGE, D.O.B. – 25.05.89
LOCHGELLY HIGH SCHOOL**

Mary is currently residing with childminder Katrina Dick, Monday to Friday and with her uncle at the weekend. Mrs Dick advises that there have been no issues while Mary has stayed with her. They have built a positive relationship with Mary doing all that is asked of her. Mary's uncle is unable to care for Mary full-time, as he is a widow with two pre-school children.

Mary has had several moves within the last few years. She initially lived full-time with her mother. However her mother was unable to care for her and Mary moved to reside with her paternal grandparents before moving in with her dad. To begin with this arrangement appeared positive though after a year Mr Hodge stated he could no longer care for Mary and she was outwith his control. Mary moved to live with extended relatives where she stayed for approximately two and a half months. When Mary moved there the difficulties her father was experiencing were discussed, and the possible activities she would request to do (e.g. go to the local disco, stay out very late) the couple informed they were investing in Mary and they planned to care for her into her late teens/ adulthood. Unfortunately this arrangement broke down after Mary stayed out overnight and the couple informed the Social Work Service they were no longer able to care for Mary, resulting in Mary becoming accommodated with a childminder.

Our current plan is for:

- Mary to remain with Mrs Dick during the week and her uncle at the weekend.
- Mary to be referred to the Family Group Conference Co-ordinator and a Family Group Conference to be convened.

If after the Family Group Conference Mary's family are not able to provide a suitable plan Mary would need to be considered for a long term foster placement.

We may also need to come back under emergency circumstances if the current care arrangements were to break down.

Thank you.

Julie Murray
Social Worker
Children & Families Team

Our Ref: JM/R31/KH

Date: 30 December 2003

COMPOSITE HEARING REPORT

Concerning

NAME:

Mary Hodge

DATE OF BIRTH:

25/05/89

HOME ADDRESS:

CURRENT ADDRESS:

16 Morris Avenue, Lochgelly

CURRENT LEGAL STATUS:

Section 25 of the Children (Scotland) 1995
Act

DATE OF HEARING:

Tuesday, 6 January 2004

TIME AND VENUE:

10.00 am, Cowdenbeath Leisure Centre,
Pit Road, Cowdenbeath

GROUND OF REFERRAL:

Section 52 (2) (i)

REPORT COMPILED BY:

Julie Murray
Social Worker
70 Stenhouse Street
Cowdenbeath
Fife

PART 1 – SECTION 1

HISTORICAL SUMMARY OF AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

CHRONOLOGY OF INVOLVEMENT WITH CHILD & FAMILY:

15 September 1992

Mary's mother contacted the office [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It was not felt that Social Work support was necessary at this time as other agencies were working with the family.

17 July 1996

Criminal Justice workers referred Mary to the Children and Families Team as they had concerns about her. [REDACTED]

29 January 1996

[REDACTED] Benarty School had noted some concerns and Mr Hodge was advised to make an appointment with the Head Teacher to discuss Mary's education.

23 April 1998

Benarty School contacted the Social Work office with concerns about Mary's behaviour. [REDACTED] Mary was allocated to a worker in the Children and Families Team, Cowdenbeath.

June 1998

Mary's case closed to Children and Families Team, Cowdenbeath.

1 February 1999

School voicing concerns and requesting Mary's case be re-opened to Children and Families Team, Mary excluded from school for one week.

16 February 1999

Family referred to Enquiry and Information Team for further period of assessment.

23 March 1999

Mary allocated to worker in Children and Families Team.

November 2000

Mary was voluntary accommodated and resided with a foster carer for three months. The decision for Mary to return home was taken at a Looked After Child Care Review on 1 February 2001 as she clearly missed her mother and they apparently demanded she returned home.

August 2001

Social Background Report requested on Mary on the grounds of school absences and the offence of shoplifting – decision was that Mary be referred back to the Social Work Service for voluntary advice and guidance.

March 2002

Mary's case transferred to the writer as previous worker left post.

18 September 2003

Children's Hearing continued for an application to be made to the Sheriff for a finding in relation to the grounds.

PART 1 – SECTION 2

SIGNIFICANT FAMILY HISTORY & EVENTS:

Mary resided full time with her mother until she became accommodated for three months in November 2000. During this time Mary and her mother's relationship had deteriorated to the extent Mary kept running away from home. After the period of three months work had been completed with both Mary and her mother and as they felt able to live together once more and Ms Lambert felt able to care for Mary she was returned home.

Ms Lambert and Mr Young [REDACTED] have been in an on/off relationship for at least five years. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mary does not appear to have a positive relationship with Mr Young and her lack of respect for him made it difficult for him to exert any influence over her.

Mary and her mother Ms Lambert, have a close but ambiguous relationship. While Ms Lambert very much cares and loves Mary she finds it difficult to control any difficult behaviours and can be overcome by her own emotional difficulties.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

During summer 2001 Mary moved to live with her father, John Hodge. According to file information Mary went to stay with her dad after an argument with her mother, and until this time none of her paternal family had a high level of contact with her. Mr Hodge appears to have initially shared the care of Mary with her paternal grandparents Mr and Mrs Hodge, who reside in Ballingry, until he was successful in locating a family home for them. This arrangement initially appeared to be a positive one for Mary and she settled into life with her dad. Although he appeared to be strict with her Mary appeared to respond well to his care. Their relationship however deteriorated during Spring 2003 with Mr Hodge stating he could no longer care for Mary. Although her relationship with her father has broken down Mary still appears to idolise him and I believe can carry out activities to gain his attention.

In, approximately, April 2003 Mr Hodge informed the department he was unable to care for Mary and stated he would leave her at the Social Work Office. He instead dropped her off at her mother's where Mary stayed for four weeks. This arrangement was not a good one and Mary moved to live with distant relatives. Mary's difficulties were discussed and they informed they understood them. They were aware Mary had been doing as she pleased and they would possibly encompass difficulties when imposing rules and boundaries on her. They informed they understood this and were investing in Mary and her future. However after approximately six weeks this/

this/

arrangement broke down and Mary became accommodated with a Childminder, Ms Kate Dick. This arrangement was to take place until Mary's Family Group Meeting was convened.

A Family Group Meeting took place on 10 September 2003 with Mary's maternal aunt stating she could possibly care for Mary though would need to discuss this with her partner and assess their housing situation. The family asked for a Review Meeting to take place. Mary's Uncle George at the meeting informed he would be able to care for Mary until her aunt was able to confirm her plans. However the following week Mr George Hodge stated he realised he would be unable to offer this level of committed care to Mary due to his own family circumstances. The plan therefore reverted to the original where Mary was staying Monday – Friday with Ms Dick, Childminder and her Uncle George at the weekends.

The Review Family Group Meeting took place on 4 November 2003. Ms Diana Kilpatrick (maternal aunt) stated at this meeting she had discussed the situation with her partner and they were happy to look after Mary. However as they resided in a two bedroom house with two pre-school children they would require to move house. They immediately begun to pursue this and are currently awaiting confirmation from Kingdom Housing before they will look to sell their own property.

Until these arrangements can be finalised it was agreed at the Family Meeting that Mary would reside two nights with her aunt and family, have overnight contact with her Uncle George at weekends and stay the rest of the week with Ms Dick.

Unfortunately the overnights with her uncle broke down and he felt Mary was not co-operating with him. He stated he wanted to stop the overnight contact before their relationship totally deteriorated and he would not be a support for Mary. Mary during this time felt her uncle was using her to babysit at the weekends and although she did not mind this occasionally she felt every weekend was too much.

PART 2

BASIS OF REPORT:

This report is based on file information, contact with Mary and her extended family plus contact with Mrs Dick, Childminder and Mrs Drysdale, Lochgelly High School.

CURRENT FAMILY COMPOSITION:

Name:	Relationship	DOB:	Address
Anne Lambert	Mother		
David Hodge	Half brother		
Demi Young	Half sister		
Mary Hodge	Subject	25/05/89	16 Morris Avenue, Lochgelly
John Hodge	Father		
George Hodge	Uncle		

PROFILE OF CHILD:

Mary is a very attractive young person who can look older than her fourteen years. She enjoys music, make-up and discos. Mary can be a talkative young person and is able to voice her opinions. At times Mary displays appropriate teenage tantrums when not getting her own way and she will test the love and boundaries of those looking after her. Given the situations she has witnessed and behaviours of adults she has experienced, Mary at times can have a very mature, wise understanding of situations. She has a first hand knowledge of the dangers of drugs and has always spoken negatively about them. Mary is a clever young person who is capable of achieving high school grades if she was determined to do so.

Mary experienced a period of time where she felt she had outgrown the discos for her age and rather thought she should attend older parties. She had associates older than her who Mr George Hodge advised were of a negative influence and not appropriate friends. However more recently Mary appears to have appropriate friends from school. She and Ms Dick advise she spends more of her leisure time in Lochgelly and not going to Ballingry. Mary advises she has begun a dance class at Lochgelly Centre which she enjoys.

EDUCATION:

Mary did not have a positive experience at Benarty Primary School nor did she enjoy this time. Her behaviour there vastly deteriorated when she was aware of negative comments about her mother within letters which were sent home and according to file information to Lochgelly High School. Initially it was thought that Mary's best interest would be served by attending Beath High School to allow her a fresh start. I am unsure as to why this did not happen but Mary commenced her high school education at Lochgelly High School. During her time at high school there have been periods where Mary's behaviour has been negative though for the majority of her time, Mary has had very good report cards and school grades. Mary appears to have settled extremely well at High School considering her primary school education.

I have been unable to speak with Mary's Guidance Teacher due to timescales and holidays however I believe although Mary at times displays a negative attitude towards school and missed classes her grades are still very good and hopefully once Mary's home environment is stable she will be able to concentrate on school once more.

Since Mary has resided with Ms Dick Lochgelly High School have not been in contact to discuss negative worrying issues.

Mary states she is unsure as to what she wants to do when she leaves school, though has spoken about College. She is aware a good education/grades is vital to her future decisions.

HEALTH:

Mary enjoys good health and to my knowledge has no outstanding medical appointments.

PARENTAL/PEER RELATIONSHIPS:

Mary is a very friendly young person who always appears to be in a circle of 'friends'. However it has been discussed with Mary whether these friends are 'true' friends or just acquaintances. Mary began to hang around with people older than her years, which was a worry for her family and Social Work. Mary appears to quite often be caught between knowing what is right and what her group of friends are doing. She has informed me that to lose face in front of her friends is worse than thinking her own mind and doing what she knows is right. Mary understands that the activities of these friends may get them into trouble and for her best interests she should stay away from them.

As stated Mary appears to be spending her leisure time with friends from school in Lochgelly. Ms Dick states Mary comes in on time (often early with the cold nights) and she is aware where she is.

Mary appears to have a very positive relationship with Ms Dick and her family.

As stated Mary and her mother have an affectionate, loving relationship however Ms Lambert is not able to impose any rules and boundaries on Mary and care for her day to day. I have not had recent contact with Mary's dad as I am unsure of his new address in Cowdenbeath.

Mary appears to have a positive relationship with her Uncle George and although there are times when she feels he is lecturing her too much she is aware he cares for her wellbeing and safety.

OFFENDING

When we discussed the grounds of referral Mary informed the second incident that occurred on 6 April 2003 happened because the victim had been arguing and abusive to her mother the previous week. With regard to the other incident Mary has a very strong sense of her identity and is very protective of her mother and her family name. Mary at times feels she has to live up to her surname and the reputation it has in the local community. Mary has informed that her dad told her if she is hit she has to hit back. We have discussed it would make her a much stronger mature person if she walked away but Mary feels this would imply she was a coward and everyone would try and bully her.

SOCIAL WORK PLAN:

When they met to plan Mary's future and see who could care for her, Mary's family were able to come up with a possible plan. See attached plan for 4 November 2003.

Mary's plan appears to be progressing well, although she is residing with Ms Dick five nights a week and two nights with Mrs Kilpatrick.

Mary's Aunt Diana and family are still committed to caring for Mary and await allocation of a house, which they advise should be in January/February.

The Social Work plan will run alongside the Family Group Plan.

- Social Work would continue to have at least monthly/fortnightly one to one contact with Mary to help her address behaviour issues, her temper, and provide her with support.
- There would also be regular contact with Mary's carer and other relevant family members to ensure Mary was settled and her behaviour managed.
- Mary would be supported within her education and encouraged so she achieves her potential.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE PANEL:

1. To place Mary on a Supervision Requirement with residence in Foster Care.

At present this is not believed to be the most appropriate option for Mary. Her family have reached a plan and need time to implement it. Mary has a very positive relationship with Ms Dick, and this arrangement is proving to be positive.

2. To place Mary on a Home Supervision Requirement.

At present Mary is co-operating and working alongside her family plan plus the Social Work Service. It is not felt this is necessary at this time as Mary appears to be following the direction of Ms Dick. When she moves to live with her aunt and family a period of time should ascertain whether they are able to control Mary full-time on a voluntary basis.

3. For Mary to be referred back to the Social Work Service for voluntary advice and guidance.

It is not felt a statutory order would be beneficial for Mary at present. As stated she is working with the family plan and Social Work Service. Mary appears to be following the guidance provided by Ms Dick and her aunt and uncle. If the family's plan becomes impractical or is not working another Family Meeting will be called by the family. Plus if Mary does not co-operate with the plan or those looking after her the Social Work Service will call another Hearing to discuss the situation further.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

In conclusion despite the grounds of referral and the difficulties Mary has experienced I do not think that statutory measures are appropriate at present. Both Mary and her family have co-operated with Ms Lavelle, Social Work Assistant, and myself voluntarily and there is no reason why this cannot continue to allow a further period of assessment and implementation of the family plan.

As stated Mary and her family have had two Family Group Meetings, 10 September 2003 and 4 November 2003 and they were able to discuss issues and come up with a plan of support for Mary. Mr and Mrs Kilpatrick are awaiting allocation of a bigger house at which time Mary will move to reside with them full-time. At this time they will be supported and an application for a residence allowance will be made.

Since moving to reside with Ms Dick, Mary's behaviour appears to have settled, there have been no reports from the school or police about her behaviour. She comes home on time and Ms Dick reports no difficulties in managing her.

Therefore the Children's Panel are requested to refer Mary back to the Social Work Service to work on a voluntary basis. This will allow a further period of time for the Family Group Plan to be implemented and a further period of assessment. If after this time it was felt statutory measures were required Social Work would ensure a further Hearing was arranged and refer Mary back to the Reporter's Department.

Julie Murray
Social Worker
Children & Families Team

Graham Milne
Team Leader
Children & Families Team