

## PROTECT

16. Aurora and I went on to talk about where she feels safe. Aurora said "Being at Dad's" made her feel safe. I asked if there was anywhere she did not feel safe. Aurora said "Being at Avril's, Mum's". I asked Aurora whether she called her Mum Avril. Aurora said "I just don't want her to be my Mum because I don't want Ken to be my Step-Dad. If Avril said that Ken was going to be my Step-Dad I'd get a kitchen knife and slit my throat, kill myself. Or I'd pack up my and Orion's things and run away to Dad's house".

17. I asked Aurora if there was a big decision that the Judge could make for her. Aurora said "I want to live at Dad's because he's a much better parent. Loads of people have said he's the bad one but he's the best". I asked Aurora who had said that he Dad was "the bad one". Aurora said "Dad. But I'm not sure I'm supposed to tell you that. But I know because I was with Mum and Mum told me, she told everyone at school that Dad was mean and that this young boy and girl needed to be saved". I asked if that meant her and her brother. Aurora nodded. I asked her if there was anything else she wanted to tell me. Aurora shook her head. I asked if she wanted any contact with her Mum. Aurora said "I do. But I want to see her when she has improved her behaviour and when she's not lying and without Ken". I asked if there was anything else she wanted to say. She replied, "Just so you know Orion lies sometimes. So he might give the wrong answers". I asked if she felt there were right answers to my questions and she nodded. I asked who she felt would know what the right answers were and she shrugged. I asked if she did see her Mum where would it be. Aurora said "Dad said I could see her in a park and I want someone to be there in case she tries to take me back home". I asked who that would be and she said "Dad, I don't know, someone, the childminder, no, not the childminder, Dad". I asked if there was anything else she felt I needed to know. Aurora said "there is but I'm not sure I'm supposed to tell you. Mum will never marry Ken. Daddy and Mummy are cousins. I don't think they'll get married because Ken and Daddy don't want to be related". She went on to say "Every time Mum hit me, Dad was very defensive of me and Orion. One time when Mum was giving Orion a punishment she was stopping Dad getting in and she told me to F off. One time she held me to the floor and spat in my face. It's like she's got a mental problem". I asked who thought that her Mother had a mental problem to which Aurora responded "me".