

## Who we are

- Since 1998, we have provided person-led advocacy across England
- Our services are high quality, confidential and free
- We are a charity that is independent of professional services including Social Care, the NHS and the police
- We help people live the lives they want to live.



advocacy  
focus

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“

I can talk to my Advocate, he listens to me and cares. He does not judge me or try to control my life. He helped me to see I have choices in life, when I thought I had none.

- Chantelle

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## HOW TO REFER FOR ADVOCACY

- ✓ Download the relevant referral form from our website: [www.advocacyfocus.org.uk/refer](http://www.advocacyfocus.org.uk/refer)
- ✓ Email the completed form to: [admin@advocacyfocus.org.uk](mailto:admin@advocacyfocus.org.uk)

## Got an urgent question?

A **Duty Advocate** is available during office hours. Chat instantly about any questions you may have at: [www.advocacyfocus.org.uk](http://www.advocacyfocus.org.uk)



## Children's Advocacy Services in Salford



Providing a service which supports life improvement for all children and young people in care or those going through the child protection process

Our Independent Advocates and volunteers champion the rights of young people

We ensure that every young person's voice is heard

We believe in putting young people at the heart of any decisions that affect their lives

✉ [admin@advocacyfocus.org.uk](mailto:admin@advocacyfocus.org.uk)

☎ 0300 323 0965

🌐 [www.advocacyfocus.org.uk](http://www.advocacyfocus.org.uk)



# Children's Rights Helpline 0300 323 0965



**Safeguards and protects the rights of children and young people in care. Our Children's Rights Helpline provides important information and helps children and young people to understand their rights.**

**Our Advocates will help to promote all the things that matter most to a young person, such as their education, placements, contact arrangements and their future.**

## Our helpline will ensure children:

- ✓ Are guided through their concerns
- ✓ Can plan for their future and leaving care
- ✓ Have access to an Independent Visitor a volunteer who befriends and supports them during their time in care

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## Independent Advocacy



**Advocacy is a vital safeguard for children going through child in need and child protection proceedings, who are in care, or are leaving care. Many are not consulted about matters affecting their lives**

### Our Advocates can:

- ✓ Communicate the wishes and feelings of a child or young person
- ✓ Attend decision making meetings
- ✓ Support with the transition of leaving care
- ✓ Assist in making a complaint or in challenging decisions
- ✓ Explain information, processes or options available, in a way that they understand
- ✓ Uphold their legal rights and human rights and ensure that they are fairly treated
- ✓ Help access relevant services such as financial services or employment services.

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## Independent Visitor (IV)



**An IV is a volunteer who befriends children and young people in care. It is reported that Independent Visitors can encourage them to take more productive paths in life.**

**An Independent Visitor can sometimes be the only person who is not paid to be there for them.**

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### Our Independent Visitors will:

- ✓ Develop long-term friendships, visit regularly and maintain consistent letter, phone or text contact
- ✓ Take them on outings and encourage educational journeys and development
- ✓ Ensure the child has someone to listen to them
- ✓ Be a positive role model
- ✓ Encourage the child or young person to seek help from a professional or Advocate should they need it
- ✓ Motivate them to develop new interests, skills or hobbies



Chat to an Advocate online or **download a referral form** at: [www.advocacyfocus.org.uk](http://www.advocacyfocus.org.uk)



[admin@advocacyfocus.org.uk](mailto:admin@advocacyfocus.org.uk)