

## FAQ's:

### *Is what I say confidential?*

A LAC advocate will only pass on information if you give permission for them to do so. But if you say something which means that you or someone else is at risk of being hurt in some way then the advocate has to pass that on, but they will tell you if they are going to do that.

### *What happens at my LAC review?*

The LAC review is an opportunity for everyone working with you to check how things are going for you. It is important that you have a voice in that meeting either by attending or sending in your views. An advocate can help you with this by meeting with you.

### *How is a LAC advocate different from a Social Worker?*

An advocate is independent which means they don't work for social services or schools or anyone else.

An advocate will only talk about what you want to say and not what they think. Social Workers are trying to work out what is best for you whereas an advocate just listens and passes on what you say.



## For Professionals:

### *We Do:*

Visit young people at a place where they are comfortable

Support young people at meetings if they want support

Keep information confidential unless it is a safeguarding concern

### *We Don't:*

Question young people about specific things

Transport young people to and from meetings

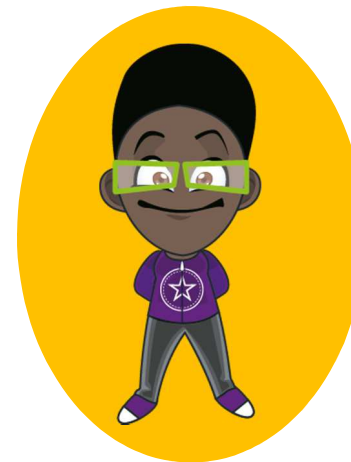
Share what the young person has said without their permission (unless it is a safeguarding issue).

## LAC Advocacy

**To request an Advocate or an Independent Visitor please visit**

Website: [www.youngnorthants](http://www.youngnorthants)

# Northamptonshire Children's Rights Service



## Looked After Children Advocacy

Service for Children  
& Young People



Northamptonshire  
County Council



You have a right to be listened to and have your views taken seriously.

But sometimes it is difficult to say how you feel and to know who to talk to.

They will then help you to feel confident to say things for yourself or speak for you.

They will make sure that your views are heard at meetings where decisions are made about you.

### How it Works:

If you feel that you need an advocate you can visit the Northamptonshire County Council, Childrens Right's Service web site or you can ask your carer/social worker/keyworker to contact us on your behalf.

An advocate will listen to what the situation is and if we feel that we are able to support you then we will.

We may need to contact other professionals involved with you to gather more information about the issue.

We will always keep you updated with how things are going.

If we feel that an advocate can't help you we will try and advise you of who could.



### What does the Advocate do?

If you feel that the adults around you aren't listening to you an advocate can help you share your wishes and feelings.

An advocate can support you in making choices and knowing your rights when there are problems around the care you receive.

Your advocate can also support you if you are in the process of making a complaint.

Makes sure that your views are heard at the meetings if you do not want to attend.