

Get in touch

If you would like to find out more about having an Independent Visitor, talk to us:

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[changegrowlive.org/independent-visitor-black-country-telford-wrekin/info](https://www.changegrowlive.org/independent-visitor-black-country-telford-wrekin/info)

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Independent
Visitor Service

The Black Country, Telford and Wrekin

Independent Visitor service Information for young people



Are you in care?

- Aged between 8 and 17½ years old?
- Want someone who is there just for you?

What you need to know

An Independent Visitor is a volunteer and someone there just for you. It is someone you can talk to when you want to get things off your chest; someone you can go out with and try new and fun activities; and, very importantly, someone who is not a paid worker.

The Independent Visitor is someone who is on your side and can offer you support until you reach 18½ years old, and in some cases, for longer than that. You can decide at any point that you do not want to continue with

an Independent Visitor or you can reduce how often you see them. The visits are organised by you, your carers and the Independent Visitor.

“I think everyone should have an Independent Visitor - mine’s great, he takes time to listen and helps me loads.”

Who are Independent Visitors?

- An adult who gives back some of their free time to support a child or young person who lives with a foster family, in residential care or in supported independent living accommodation.

- Independent Visitors live near the young person’s local area.
- Lots of different people are Independent Visitors, of all different ages, backgrounds and genders.
- A volunteer who has been interviewed and trained by us so that we can get to know them better to see if they would be a good match for a young person.

Can I have an Independent Visitor?

- Yes, if you are a child or young person who is in foster care or a residential home and you are aged between 8 and 17½ years old, you can have an Independent Visitor.
- It’s always your choice to have one or not.

It’s not something you have to do if you don’t want to.

- To make sure you have an Independent Visitor who is right for you, we look at what you like doing and what you don’t and try to match you with someone who has similar likes and dislikes.
- Sometimes it can take us a while to find you the right person. We do this to make sure we find someone you are comfortable with and who gets on well with you.