

What is an advocate?



An advocate is an independent supporter who is there to help you if your children are under review from Social Services.



It is your right to have an advocate to prepare for and attend any meetings and help you to have your voice heard.



The Council you live in, pays our advocates to support you until the case is closed.



You will be assigned the same advocate each time you need to meet.



They always have lots of experience and can help you understand what is being said.



An advocate is different from a lawyer and can't legally represent you.

What can my advocate do for me?

Your advocate will:



Talk to you over the phone about how you are feeling



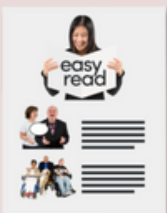
Explain what will happen at meetings and hearings



Introduce all the professionals involved and what they do



Make sure you understand everything that is said in meetings



Make the information into an accessible format that you prefer



Speak on your behalf if you feel unable to do this yourself



Work with you for as long as the case takes to complete.