

What is a Parent Advocate?



A Parent Advocate supports parents who are involved in child protection and family care proceedings.

Advocacy is free, independent and confidential.

What does a Parent Advocate do?



An advocate can help you to go to different types of important meetings.

These are some of the meetings an advocate can come to:

- ✓ Child protection conferences
- ✓ Core group meetings
- ✓ Care planning meetings
- ✓ Solicitor appointments
- ✓ Court hearings



An advocate will make sure that your voice is heard within the process you might be going through.



An advocate can also help you to:

- ✓ understand information from professionals
- ✓ be involved in meetings
- ✓ make decisions which are best for you
- ✓ find a solicitor if you need to



An advocate will help you to self-advocate as much as you want to. Self-advocacy means that you say what is important to you and what your views and wishes are.



Advocates are not support workers, counsellors, befrienders and will not give any legal advice or legal support.

When can I have a Parent Advocate?



You can have support from an advocate if you are going through child protection and family court proceedings and you have:

- ✓ a learning difficulty
- ✓ a learning disability
- ✓ autism
- ✓ mental health issues