

“Children have the **right** to say what they think should happen when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account.”

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 12



For more information please contact:

PYPS

Advocacy

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Upper Northam Road
Hedge End
SO30 4QU

01489 796684

Email:

pyps@barnardos.org.uk

Advocacy for
Child Protection
Conferences & Looked
After
Children's Reviews
Information for
Children and Young
People



Portsmouth Young
People's Services



What is advocacy?

Advocacy means getting support from another person to help you express your views and wishes, and to help make sure your voice is heard.

Someone who helps you in this way is called your advocate.

We can provide you with a dedicated advocate who will spend time getting to know you and listen to your views. Your advocate will support you with your child protection conferences or your looked after child Reviews. They can help you get your wishes and views across to the panel.

Your advocate will seek feedback at the end of sessions so they are sure they are meeting your needs and that we can learn from you about any better ways we can provide support.

CONFIDENTIAL

Confidentiality:

Our service is provided on a confidential basis.

You have the right to know what we have written about you. Just ask us and we will arrange for you to come and see your personal record.



Getting an advocate:

Barnardo's advocacy will be told by Portsmouth City Council when there is going to be a child protection conference or looked after children's review. This is because it is a your right to be offered an advocate. We will then contact you or your parents/carers to arrange a time to meet with you. You do NOT have to meet with an advocate if you don't want to but it is your right to be offered one.



Barnardo's aim to:

Provide a quality, independent and confidential advocacy service to children and young people.

Barnardo's have been given the National Youth Agency's "HEAR BY RIGHTS" Gold Award. This shows we are passionate about making sure Children and Young People's voices are heard and that you are at the heart of all services we deliver.



We will:

- ◆ Enable the views and wishes of children and young person to be heard by those in authority.
- ◆ Support or where needed ,directly represent, children and young people in meetings and reviews in order to empower them and give confidence that their views will be heard and fully understood,
- ◆ Ensure that children and young people have a voice in matters affecting their future.