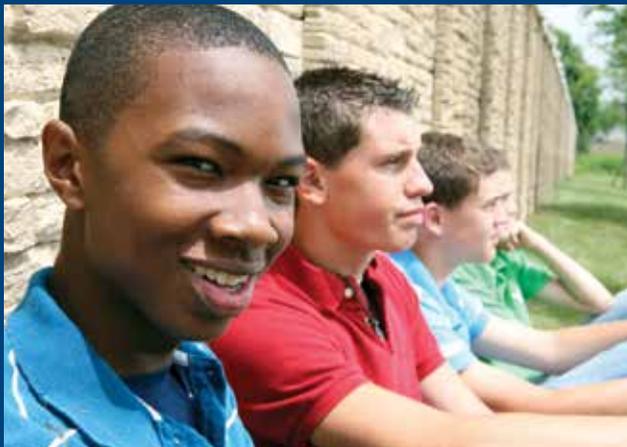


What is an Advocate?

An Advocate is a person who:

- is independent from social care and the council
- will help you to understand your rights
- will help you tell people what you want and need
- will help you to understand any decisions that are being made and why
- will support you at your Review, Child Protection Conference or any other important meetings
- will only do what you ask of them and speak to who you want them to
- will keep everything you say confidential unless they have your permission or you or someone else is at risk of harm
- will respect your beliefs, rights and values and will not judge you
- works for you and only you.



Contact us

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about our service, please get in touch.



Essex All Age Advocacy Service
Saxon House
27 Duke Street
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 1HT



0300 7900 559



Text or WhatsApp 07483 337026



essexadvocacy@rethink.org



Leading the way to a better
quality of life for everyone
severely affected by mental illness.

For further information
on Rethink Mental Illness
Phone 0121 522 7007
Email info@rethink.org



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Rethink

Advocacy

Essex All Age Advocacy Service





Can I have an Advocate?

You have the right to an Advocate if you are:

- a child or young person in care
- a child or young person who is classified as a Child in Need
- a care leaver
- a child or young person receiving a social care service and wish to make a representation
- or have your view heard in a decision-making meeting (e.g. a Child Protection conference).

We may also help you if you are under 18 and homeless, or if you wish to challenge a decision.

Advocacy for Children and Young People who are not able to instruct:

- The Advocate can provide non-instructed advocacy for children and young people who find verbal communication difficult due to age or disability.

Advocates are governed by The National Standards for the Provision of Children's Advocacy Services, the Children's Act 1989, and The United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child.

"Advocacy helps to safeguard children and young people, and protect them from harm and neglect... it is about making sure children and young people get the help they need, when they need it, however large or small their concern... making sure that someone is always ready to listen and act quickly to help."

Margaret Hodge Minister for Children, Young People and Families

"Children have the right to say what they think should happen when adults are making decisions about them."

Article 12 UNCRC

If you, or someone you know would benefit from this service, please give us a call or email using the details overleaf.

