

About our Advocacy Workers

Our Advocacy Workers have extensive experience working alongside children and young people impacted by a variety of issues including mental health, disability, and additional support for learning. needs.

Our Advocacy Workers undertake a comprehensive induction programme and participate in ongoing professional development in order to keep up to date with current legislation and maintain best practice standards.

Our Advocacy Workers are registered and verified members of the Disclosure Scotland PVG Scheme. They are bound by the Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance's codes of practice, principles & standards. Confidentiality, relationship building and being accountable to our young people

Want to Make A Referral?



0330 533 0238



dundee@pia.scot

We operate an open referral system and are happy to accept referrals from Children & Young People, parents/ carers, schools, social work, CAMHS, or other agencies

For more information about this or about any of our services, please get in touch. We can also arrange to provide presentations to professionals, schools and universities, patients, and service users

**Partners in
Advocacy**

Registered Company No. 185467
Scottish Charity No. SC027857

Partners in Advocacy

Independent Advocacy for Children & Young People Information for Agencies



What is INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY for Children & Young People

INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY is a free service which helps children and young people to have their voices heard and their views taken into account when adults and professionals are making decisions about their lives

Why is **INDEPENDENCE** Important?

An **Advocacy Worker** is free from the control or direction of anyone else involved within the situation. We are free from conflict and are there to only voice the opinions and views of the young person and protect their rights within the process

INDEPENDENCE helps to avoid conflicts of interest in a way that might be difficult for a family member, friend, or professional involved to avoid: especially when the individual has a differing point of view to those who care for them.



Situations In Which An Advocacy Worker Might Be Helpful Include...

- Mental Health Tribunals
- Additional Support Needs Tribunals
- Children's Hearings
- Child Protection
- Issues with Care and Treatment
- Review meetings
- School meetings
- Self-Directed Support
- Additional Support for Learning
- Bullying, relationships and other emotional issues
- Accessing Services
- Getting information, accessing legal advice, exploring options

An Independent Advocacy Work's Job Is To...

- Listen to the Child/Young Person
- Find out what is important to them
- Speak up for them, their views, and their rights
- Empower them to speak up for themselves
- Access Information or signpost to specialist services to help them make informed decisions
- Safeguard vulnerable Children & Young People

Independent Advocacy Is Not...

- A legal service
- Being the voice of the parent
- Telling/Advising the Child/Young Person what to do
- Befriending
- A mediation or counselling service
- Care or support work (Nor is it a substitute for these)
- Making decisions for the Child/Young Person
- Making unrealistic promises