What can advocacy help with?

Advocacy can help with a whole range of things and you will be able to decide what you want to talk about. Some things it helps with are:

- Family time
- Education
- Placements
- Attending meetings
- Personal issues

What do other people say about advocacy?

'It was really good and Angie kept asking me what I wanted and she put everything in my words and she was really nice.'

'We listed the things that I wanted. My advocate was really supportive with my decisions.'

'My advocate explained to me about the conference and made me feel more comfortable about going.'
What is Advocacy?
Advocacy is about helping and supporting you to get your views across. It is also about helping you to have a say in decisions that affect your life.

Who can use the Trust Advocacy Service?
If you are a child or young person (aged from 8 years to 18 years old), you are from Doncaster and you have a social worker, you can ask to have an advocate.

What does an advocate do?
An advocate asks you what you want and helps you to have a say about your future. An advocate can help you: make a complaint, ask for answers to questions, have your say in meetings. Advocates don’t tell you what to do.

Advocacy Facts
Advocates are independent from your social worker.

You decide how often you see or speak to your advocate.

You can text, email or phone your advocate.

Advocates can voice your wishes and feelings.

Advocates don’t tell people what you have discussed without your permission (unless they think you are in danger).

Advocates can attend on your behalf or with you at your meetings.

How do I get an advocate?
You can contact the advocacy team yourself, on the numbers below, or ask someone else (like your carer) to do this for you. You can also tell your social worker that you would like an advocate and they will request one for you.

Tell us if you would like an advocate
An advocate can help you to have a say about decisions that affect your life. If you are from Doncaster and have a social worker you can apply to have an advocate by completing this form.

Tell us if you would like an advocate

Your name?

Date of birth?

Where do you live (address)?

What is your mobile number?

(If you have one)

What is your email address?

(If you have one)

What is your Social Worker called?

How can your advocate help you make your voice heard?
(You can tick more than one box)

☑ Complaint
☑ Support with or at a meeting
☑ Support with or at a Child Protection Conference
☑ Support regarding placement move
☑ Communication with your social worker
☑ Family Time
☑ Where you live
☑ Getting your own opinion across
☑ Help with school worries
☑ Making an important decision
☑ Other (please give details below)

Your signature: Date completed:

What happens next?
Send this form in and we’ll arrange to see you.

You can send us this information by:
Email: AdvocacyService@dcstrust.co.uk
Text: Angie 07970 275427 or Kayleigh 0789 0634777

Or you can post this to:
Participation and Advocacy Team
Doncaster Children’s Services Trust
First Floor, Colonnades House
Duke Street
Doncaster
DN1 1ER