

## **Independent Visitors For Children In Care**

Reconstruct is the provider of independent visiting for looked after children and young people in Milton Keynes, Reading, Bristol, BANES and South Gloucestershire offering them the opportunity to build a long term, trusting, one to one relationship with a reliable, committed adult role model.

Children and young people have a say in the type of visitor they would like, the things they will do together and whether or not they want a visitor at all. Visitors are warm, friendly, understand boundaries and they are recruited, trained and supported to work safely with vulnerable young people by Reconstruct.

Reconstruct works in a child centred way and will adapt our service to meet the individual needs of the child.

- Children, carers and professionals can make a referral.
- Any child in care can have a visitor who will take them out on a monthly basis for approximately 2-3 hours
- Visitors are independent from social services.
- Activities during visits can range from going out for food, to the cinema, playing sport, to arts and crafts.
- Young people in care have many changes but they can have the same visitor until they turn 18.
- Young people tell us that having a visitor is a rewarding and positive experience that has benefitted them in many ways.
- Having a visitor offers a safe place for young people to share thoughts and feelings with an adult they trust.
- Independent visiting is about empowerment, building confidence and raising selfesteem.

For more information or to make a referral call our helpline number on 0800 389 1571 or email <a href="mailto:yourvoice@reconstruct.co.uk">yourvoice@reconstruct.co.uk</a>