



# **RECONSTRUCT OFFERS INDEPENDENT VISITING SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE**

An Independent Visitor (IV) is an Adult Volunteer who is independent of Social Services. Their role is to establish a supportive and long-term relationship with a young person built on trust. They will guide and listen to a young person, helping to build their self-esteem and develop new interests and skills over time.

Reconstruct can provide your young person with an Independent Visitor if you think they would benefit from it or find it enjoyable.

## **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF AN INDEPENDENT VISITOR?**

- ✓ To befriend a young person and take them out on monthly visits.
- ✓ To provide them with someone to talk to who is independent of the Local Authority.
- ✓ To be a good role model who builds a positive relationship with a young person.
- ✓ To help build trust by being a consistent adult presence in a young person's life.
- ✓ To spend one on one time with them away from the placement.
- ✓ To help build confidence and introduce a young person to new activities and widen their interests.
- ✓ To help build self-esteem and resilience over time by developing skills and hobbies.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE A REFERRAL, CONTACT US:**

 **0800 0209 858**

 **VISITING@RECONSTRUCT.CO.UK**

 **WWW.RECONSTRUCT.CO.UK/CHILDRENS-SERVICES/**

## CHILDREN CHOOSE THEIR INDEPENDENT VISITOR

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 individuals who are recruited, trained and supported to work safely with vulnerable young people by Reconstruct.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SERVICE?

- ✓ Any child in care can have a visitor who will take them out on a monthly basis for approximately 2-3 hours.
- ✓ All Looked After Children will be able to access the Independent Visitor Service up to the age of 18.
- ✓ Children and young people with disabilities and special educational needs are also eligible.
- ✓ It is expected that the majority of children accessing this service will be over the age of 8 years old.

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