



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 is the leading provider and can offer young people within your care the opportunity to build a long term, trusting, one to one relationship with a reliable, committed adult role model.

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.

A YOUNG PERSON MAY BENEFIT WHEN;

- ✓ The young person is in a placement which makes it difficult to maintain sufficient contact with family and friends, or has no contact at all.
- ✓ The young person's well-being would be promoted by the opportunity to establish a relationship with a trustworthy, reliable adult.
- ✓ The young person is unable to go out independently.
- ✓ The young person experiences difficulties in building positive relationships.
- ✓ The young person is likely to engage in behaviour which may put them at risk of forming inappropriate relationships.

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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