

Barnardo's Jersey Advocacy

Barnardo's Values

Reflecting the unique worth of every child and young person

Encouraging children and young people to fulfil their potential

Working with hope

Exercising responsible stewardship

Barnardo's Jersey Advocacy

**To find out more about our service
or to make a referral please contact
the team on:**

Telephone 07797 739803

Email jerseyadvocacy@barnardos.org.uk

Barnardo's Jersey is proud to work in partnership with the Government of Jersey to ensure children and young people have a meaningful voice and influence in the decisions being made about them and to respect and protect their rights.

ADVOCACY
upholding Young Peoples' rights

Barnardo's Registered Charity N° 216250 & SC037605



Believe in
children
Barnardo's



Advocacy *

ad·vo·ca·cy

noun

*Empowers children and young people by giving them a voice so their wishes and feelings are heard and considered.

An independent service delivered by advocacy workers who will listen, act on their behalf, challenge decisions, defend and safeguard children and young people's rights and speak out in their best interests.

Barnardo's Jersey Advocacy

Their Right to be Heard

It's a right

Every child has a right to say what they think in all matters affecting them and have their views taken seriously (UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, Article 12).

Listening to children and young people is at the heart of all Barnardo's work, but our advocacy service especially shows Barnardo's commitment to giving children and young people a voice.

Advocacy Workers Uphold Children & Young Peoples' Rights

Our advocacy service is for children and young people who are being supported by the Government of Jersey where additional support is needed to keep them safe and to help them access the best possible support to meet their needs.

We ensure the thoughts and feelings of children and young people are heard and represented when decisions are being made about their lives. It is their right to contribute to the decision-making process in a way they feel comfortable doing so. It is their right to make a complaint when they feel unhappy with the service they are experiencing.

Independent Advocacy

All professionals play a vital role in seeking out the wishes and feelings of the children and young people they work with. However, there may be times when the wishes and feelings of a child or young person are in conflict with what the professional considers to be in their best interest.

An Barnardo's Advocacy Worker ensures that children and young people understand their rights and are able to make an informed decision about the choices that are available to them. The Advocacy Worker will not seek to influence the views of a child or young person but to enable them to share their views in a way they chose to.

An Advocacy Worker will liaise with the child or young person and their parents / carers directly to arrange meeting with them. The Advocacy Worker might also speak to the child or young person's Social Worker. The Advocacy Worker will then represent these views at the meeting and can also support the child or young person to attend.

Who are we?

Who is the service for?

The Barnardo's Advocacy service is for children and young people aged 5 – 18-years-old who:

- Have a Child Protection Plan or have an Initial Child Protection Review meeting planned.
- Have a Child in Need Plan or professionals are looking to create an initial Child in Need Plan.

As well as supporting children and young people to have a meaningful voice and influence in meetings and when decisions are being made about their lives, the Barnardo's Advocacy Service can support children and young people when they want to make a complaint.

We are also able to provide Non-Instructed Advocacy to disabled children and young people.

For Advocacy for children and young people under the age of 5-years-old or over the age of 18-years-old with additional needs, please contact us to discuss.

Accessing our service

Referrals can be made by any professional working with the child or young person.

We also actively encourage children and young people and their parents to contact the service to request an Advocacy Worker. This can be done over the phone or by completing a referral form.

Our contact details are overleaf.

