



Adrian Loades
Corporate Director of People

Please reply to:

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Advocacy support for your child in a child protection conference

Dear Parent/Carer,

My name is Karen and I am the **Children's Rights** Advocate for Redbridge.

You will know that a child protection conference has been called to discuss some concerns about **your child's** safety or well-being. When a Child Protection Conference is planned, the law says that it is important for professionals to find out what your child feels about their situation.

If your child is aged 10 or over, they have a right to receive the support of an Advocate to help them to share their views at the conference.

- As your child's Advocate I would be independent. **I work for the Children's Rights Service.** I am not a social worker and I am not connected to the social work team who is involved with your family.
- I will help your child find the best way of sharing their views so that people at the conference can understand their feelings when making decisions.
- I do not make any decisions at the conference; my job is to support your child and to ensure that their voice is heard.

Children and parents have told us how helpful this service is.

I will arrange to meet your child at school a couple of days before the conference. If you would like your child to receive this support, then simply let your social worker know as soon as possible and I will make arrangements to visit.

If you have any questions about the Advocates role, please talk to your child's social worker.

Many thanks

Karen Chen.

Children's Rights Advocate.