



Voice of the child

Providing better outcomes
for children, families and
communities



About us

Reconstruct has over 25 years' experience of developing and delivering training, consultancy, quality assurance and compliance services to a range of organisations, as well as direct services to vulnerable young people.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable children is at the centre of the work Reconstruct undertakes. Incorporating the needs of our partners, and the children they support, is paramount.

Together with the local authorities we partner with, we strive to secure the best possible outcomes in respect of access to services with the provision of professional and appropriate training; supportive consultancy and compassionate direct delivery of services.





Our vision

Reconstruct has been working since 1990 to improve young people's lives by providing Advocacy, Independent Visiting, Participation and Mentoring. We are passionate about improving children's services and lives. Whether we're dealing with an eight year old child or a director, we maintain the highest standards. We do this by employing people who have the intuition, experience and support to make good judgments. We value our people because they have a spark and because they have the ability to see a spark in others.

We value our independence enabling us to reach families who may not respond positively to statutory services. Good partnership with all agencies is key to children, young people and their families receiving services they need.





ADVOCACY SERVICES

An advocate is someone who provides support to children and young people in care, care leavers and children and young people who are subject to a Child Protection Conference.

Advocacy means to speak up for someone and there are some groups of people who may need more help than others – in this case, vulnerable children and young people. It's about making sure that children have a say in decisions that affect their life. Advocacy is about making things change because children's voices are heard and listened to.



OUR ROLE

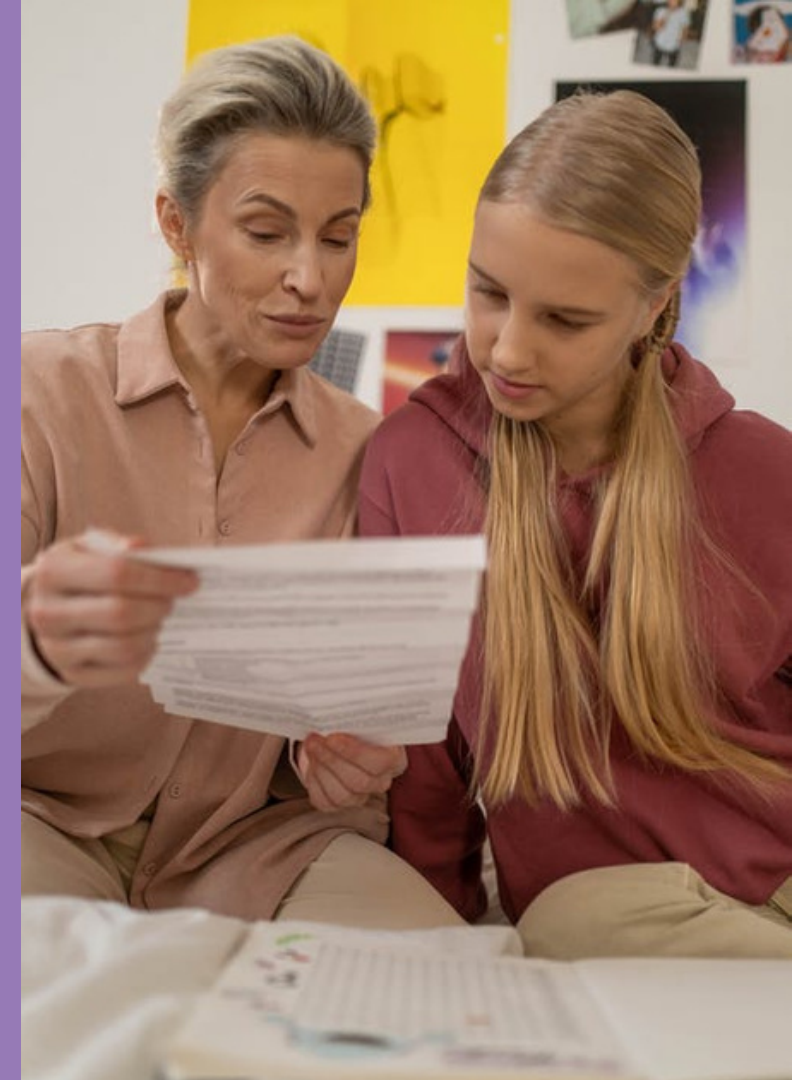
Empower

Empower children to speak up for themselves or for the advocate to speak up on their behalf



Support

Ensure that children receive independent information, advice and support and be able to signpost them to specialist support where necessary



Explain

Make children aware of the decision making processes they are going through and to help them navigate the process



Resolve

Assist children in the swift resolution of complaints



Who is eligible

The Children in Care Advocacy Service will provide support and advocacy for children in care aged 0-18 years and care leavers up to aged 25 who are placed both in and out of the authority area in the following placement types:

- **Foster Care**
- **Residential Care**
- **Independent Living**
- **Supported lodgings**
- **Living with relatives**
- **Placed with parents**



Independent Visiting

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.



OUR ROLE

Befriend

Visit a child on a regular basis, usually once a month, to befriend them



Reliable

Provide a consistent and reliable adult with a view to building a trusting and positive relationship with the child



Independent

Provide Looked After Children with someone to talk to who is independent of the local authority



Develop

Provide a child with the opportunity to try new activities and spend time with them away from their placement.





Who is eligible

Independent Visitors will not be available to care leavers. However, where a child has an existing relationship with an Independent Visitor, and they become a care leaver, this can continue if the young person deems it beneficial.

- **All Looked After Children will be able to access the Independent Visitor Service up to the age of 18**
- **Children with disabilities and special educational needs**
- **It is expected that the majority of children accessing this service will be over the age of 8 years old**



Participation service

This service helps children in care and care leavers share their collective experiences of the care system directly to those responsible for corporate parenting with a view to inform the design, delivery and evaluation of future services, at a local, regional and national level for children in care and care leavers.



OUR ROLE

Listen

Convening the CiC Council on a monthly basis; The CiC council should support up to 20 children per annum.



Needs

Working with city councils to ensure that a young person is supported to represent the children in care and care leaver population at each Corporate Parenting Panel meeting (5 times a year)



Assess

Working alongside partners in promoting children's active participation at a local, regional and national level;



Advise

Ensure young people feel empowered to express their views, have their skills developed, are confident in communicating, ensure their rights are understood and contributions are making a difference.



Who is eligible

- All Children in the care of a local authority up to the age of 18 years and to care leavers up to the age of 25 years



DIRECT SERVICES

Our direct services for children and young people include:

- **Independent visiting**
- **Child protection advocacy**
- **Looked after advocacy**
- **Visiting advocacy**
- **Participation**
- **Mentoring for care leavers**
- **Independent persons at secure reviews**
- **Return from missing interviews**



CONSULTANCY

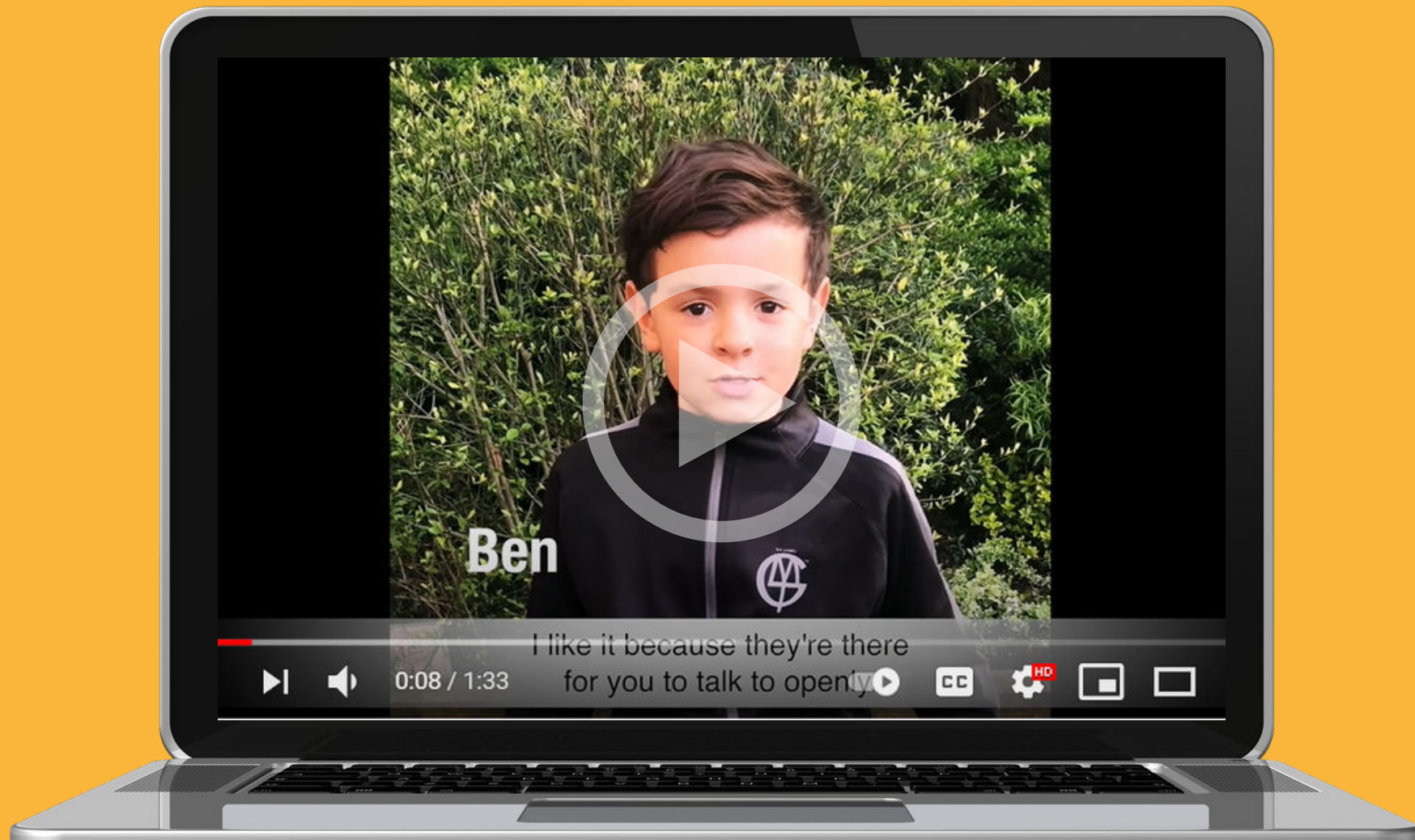
Our independent consultancy services include:

- **Serious case reviews**
- **Procedure reviews**
- **Undertaking investigations**
- **Safer schools audits**
- **Inspection preparation**



Explore how we engage with clients

[Watch the video](#) [Explore the portal](#)



Advocacy Handbook

A comprehensive online guide for Advocates, accessible at any time, from any device.

[Click HERE to view](#)

IV Handbook

By accessing our Independent Visitor's Handbook, you will be able to search for the information you need at any time.

[Click HERE to view](#)





Your team of experts



Kieran Darnell
Service Delivery Director

Kieran, who joined the team in 2009, is responsible for service delivery across the Carter Brown, tri.x and Reconstruct. He has strong historical experience of service delivery excellence across a number of multinational organisations. Integral to his role is information sharing, service development, employee integration and culture change across the group.



Marianna Nicoloau
IV and Advocacy Service Manager

Marianna has a proven track record of working in youth justice probation/juvenile services, as well as youth work and youth services. At Antser, Marianna's expertise revolves around early intervention and prevention safeguarding in children's services and working with partner agencies to tackle the challenges surrounding gangs, CSE and HSB by using her knowledge of child protection policy and procedures' management experience.



Contact us today for a live demonstration or more information on our products and services.

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