

# **Independent Visitor** Someone for me

The Children's Society

The Children's Society in Bradford

#### What is an Independent Visitor?

A volunteer who visits you regularly in their own time. They will:

- Befriend you.
- Offer advice and support.
- Do a variety of activities with you.

Independent Visitors are not social workers, foster carers or key workers – they are independent of Children's Services.

## Can I have one?

If you are cared for, you have the right to ask for an Independent Visitor. If you would like this help, talk to your carer or social worker about it.

#### What sort of people are Independent Visitors?

We try and find lots of people from different areas, with all sorts of backgrounds, interests, jobs, ages and personalities.

They may share the same interests as you or they might try and encourage you to try new things.



#### What can an Independent Visitor do for me?

- Be there just for you.
- Visit regularly.
- Take you out and have some fun.
- Try new things/hobbies and interests with you.
- Help and support you.
- Be there and listen to you.
- Talk with you about things going on in your life.

## What can we do together?

You can try lots of different things. This will be discussed when you first meet the Independent Visitor Co-ordinator. Some examples are:

- Cinema.
- Bowling/Segway.
- Walks in the park.
- Bike rides.
- Meals out.
- Creative activities.
- Visit to shops.

#### How can I have an Independent Visitor?

- **1.** Speak to your social worker or carer.
- 2. An Independent Visitor request form will be completed.
- **3.** We will get in contact with you and arrange to come and see you.

We will then go away and try to find someone who matches the type of person you have asked for.



#### How to contact us

The Children's Society Hillside Enterprise Centre Beeston Road Leeds LS11 8ND

t: 0808 1754 574 e: bradford@childrenssociety.org.uk

> The Children's Society