**Children’s Advocacy & Independent Visitor Referral pathway**

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| **CAPS service offer from April 2021** |
| **Participation Offer:** |
| **Groups and forums**  We will continue to promote and encourage young people’s membership at groups and forums within the CAPs service. |
| **Independent Visitor Service offer:** |
| Independent visitor service is for CiC age 0-18yrs. Professional referrals can be made to the service and sent to the CAPS email address; you can also complete an online referral form via the CAPS website. Further information will be sent to Social Workers when a referral is received and meet the criteria. |
| **Referrals for Advocacy:** |
| Professionals will need to complete a form and email it to the CAPS email address. You can also complete online referral form via CAPS website. Children and young people can refer directly to Advocates and ring the service. Fostercarers / professionals can ring ONLY if the young person is with them and has expressed the adult to speak with us on their behalf. There will be no exceptions to this. |
| **Advocacy Offer:** |
| **CIC** – We can support all CIC 0-25 depending on circumstances. This includes liaising with other advocacy services or supporting young people in custody, detained in secure and YOI’s. It also will include some 0-19 who are returned home from care, adopted or subject to a residence or Special guardianship order. |
| **CP** – Will can offer support to age groups 0-17, |
| **SEND** – We will offer advocacy to young people 0-25 with SEND where there is a meeting / formal decision-making process, mediation or appeals process and there is no other relevant person or service to support and there is an identified need for Advocacy and decisions being made.  We will support up to 25yrs if they have an EHCP |
| **YOT** – we will provide support where there are formal meetings and no other appropriate person or service can support and there is an identified need for Advocacy and decisions being made. Barnardo’s has the national advocacy contract within YOI’s to support. |
| **DoLs / Liberty Protection Safeguards** – CAPS have an understanding what this and have a pathway in place with IMCA’s within Adult advocacy provisions to provide this service. We can continue to support Children and young people up to the age of 25yrs if needed |
| **DROP INS -** CAPS will visit Dacre Ave, Benson Lane, Cotton Croft, Regent Street and York Villas. We will also visit Wasdale and Star house on a regular basis and in agreement with young people. |
| **INTROS and EXITS offer:** |
| **Intros** – referrals will come via CiC admin sending SS7’s to CAPS for young people 0-17.  There are 2 pathways depending on the age of the young person:  **5 years and under –** anintro pack sent to carers to explain our service and support.  **5 -17 years old.** Young people will receive Direct contact from one of the Advocacy team and a visit will be offered. Information packs will be provided for both children and young people and their carers.    Packs for both will include: (1) how to get support as an individual, locally as a young person in care and national advocacy support. (2) A survey hardcopy and link to survey monkey to offer feedback on their experience. (3) A letter from CiCC and leaflets about CAPS and (4) a “ My Advocate helped me with” flyer changed every quarter with new quotes to share positive experiences of accessing advocacy. |
| **Exits** – referrals will be sent via CiC Admin team via SS7.  Young people will be contacted directly by one of the Advocacy team to offer the following  (1) A survey hardcopy and link to survey monkey to offer feedback on their experience. (2) There will be an offer to come to CAPS in the quarter of leaving care and give the feedback as part of a group or have a face-to-face meeting with an advocate. (3) where applicable a flyer for the leaving care forum. |