Confidentiality

Advocates will not have access to private information about you. Information that you share with us will only be passed on to other people when you give us permission to do so.

We will only speak to your carers, social worker or other professionals if you give us permission to do so. We will always let you know what we discuss with other people.

If you tell us something that concerns your safety or that of another person, we may have to speak to someone else. If this is the case we will let you know.
WHAT IS EPIC?
EPIC is an independent organisation working with Young People who are in care or have care experience

EPIC empowers young people to speak out and be heard in relation to their own lives

EPIC works with young people in Foster Care, Relative Care, Residential Care, High Support, Special Care, Children Detention Schools, Aftercare and those with care experience

We also work with young people with disabilities who live out of home

What is Advocacy?
Advocacy means supporting you to:
- Be heard
- Have a voice
- Know your rights
- Take part in the decisions that are being made about your life
- Find out answers to any questions you may have
- Understand the complaints system

Why would I need an Advocate?
If you want some information or advice
If you would like help to speak up about an issue that affects you
If you would like somebody to attend a meeting with you
If you would like help to ask for a service
If you need support with any other issues
If you want to make a complaint

How will my Advocate help me?
Firstly, your Advocate will listen to you
Then with your permission your Advocate might…….
- Help you write a letter
- Speak to somebody on your behalf
- Attend a meeting with you
- Help you to make a complaint
- Support you to speak up about decisions in your life
- Find out information
- Help you to understand what is being said

REMEMBER!!
You decide who your Advocate will contact and what information they will share with them

How do I get an Advocate?
Firstly, it is your decision if you want an Advocate to work with you
You (or somebody else on your behalf) can contact the EPIC office by phone, text, email or letter
The Advocacy Manager or an Advocate will then contact you to see how they can help you

Speak out
Be heard