



PARENTAL ADVOCACY & INFORMATION SERVICE

The Parental Advocacy & Information Service delivered by Barnardos is available to parents of children subject to care proceedings.



THE PROJECT HAS 3 KEY COMPONENTS:



Advocacy Service



**Information &
Communication Service**



Monitoring & Evaluation

HOW DOES THE ADVOCACY SERVICE WORK?

The Advocacy Service involves:

- Developing an advocacy plan. Helping parents understand child protection systems – both Tusla and the legal systems.
- Helping parents understand the roles of the professionals involved in child protection systems.
- Accompanying parents to child protection meetings.
- Helping parents prepare for meetings.
- Strengthening communication in proceedings by ensuring parents' questions are heard.
- Strengthening key relationships with the stakeholders involved in a child's life.
- Providing parents with relevant information and/or access to resources.
- Helping parents to understand their family's situation and understand the next steps.
- Empowering parents to participate, be heard, and be seen.

HOW DOES THE INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION SERVICE WORK?



The Information Provision & Communication Service involves:

- The impartial and neutral provision of information and advisory services related to child protection and welfare.
- This can be accessed via our Freephone number – 1800 333 355 – available Mon–Fri from 10am–1pm
- Or via our monitored email at parent.advocacy@barnardos.ie
- Developing informative materials relevant to child protection and welfare cases.
- Facilitating targeted workshops for parents.
- Providing information sessions to professionals working in this area.
- The provision of information and content via the official project website at <https://www.barnardos.ie/parental-advocacy-service/>

HOW DOES THE MONITORING & EVALUATION WORK?

- The project is a 5-year pilot project, undergoing continuous monitoring and evaluation.
- The evaluation is being completed by Cardiff University, undertaking the research component of the project.
- The monitoring and evaluation service will capture trends and best practice throughout the duration of the project.



INTERESTED IN THE SERVICE?

GET IN TOUCH VIA REFERRAL

- The Parental Advocacy & Information Service can be accessed via referral form.
- The Service is available to parents whose children's care proceedings fall under the following Tusla areas – Dublin North City; Waterford; and Wexford.
- If you know of or are working with a parent who may benefit from this service, you can fill out our referral form.
- Parents can also self-refer using the referral form.
- Advocates can be contacted should you need help in filling out the form.
- Once complete, parents can meet with their advocate and form an Advocacy Plan.

