

Your Right to Advocacy Support

Learning Links recognises and supports your choice to access the support of an advocate.

What is advocacy support?

Advocacy means getting support from another person to help you express your views and wishes, and help you stand up for your rights. Someone who helps you in this way is called your advocate.

Advocacy support provides independent guidance to assist you to exercise choice and control and have your voice heard in matters that affect you and your child.

Why you might want an advocate

You can choose to access the support of an independent advocate for any of the following:

- To help you resolve a complaint or to communicate if you are unhappy with the supports your child is receiving
- To support you if there is conflict of interest with Learning Links
- To support you in promoting and protecting your rights, including privacy
- Being treated with respect and dignity
- To have an external person listen to your views and concerns
- To help you explore your options and rights (without pressuring you)
- To provide information to help you make informed decisions
- To help you contact relevant people, or contact them on your behalf
- To accompany you and support you in meetings or appointments.

Where can I locate an advocate who can support me?

To find the locations and contact details of government-funded independent advocates near you, go to

<https://askizzy.org.au/disability-advocacy-finder>

What are the costs?

The Australian Government and some State and Territory Governments fund independent advocacy to help people with a disability or individuals unable to advocate for themselves.
