

Advocacy



**Royal Association
for Deaf people**

Ensuring deaf people's views are considered, that they understand (and can exercise) their rights, and are included in important decisions.

RAD's Advocacy service ensures that deaf peoples voices are heard. By offering tailored support and guidance, we empower deaf individuals to navigate complex systems, assert their rights and overcome barriers in areas such as healthcare, education, employment and social services.

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I can't thank RAD enough, they have been so helpful. I absolutely could not have done this without their help, and without them, my daughter would have to go to our last choice school.

Advocacy client

What is Advocacy?

An advocate makes sure people's views are considered, that they understand (and can exercise) their rights and are included in important decisions.

How can the Advocacy services help me?

Do you feel you are not being listened to by people making decisions about your life?

Advocacy may be able to help you by supporting you to have your say or empowering you to express your views, wishes or decisions. All our advocates are either deaf or have native BSL fluency and can support with:

- Community Advocacy
- Health complaints
- Independent Care Act Advocacy (ICAA)
- Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA)
- Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)
- Mental health pathway support and referrals
- Relevant Person Representative
- Statutory and Non-Statutory Advocacy

To find out more about different types of Advocacy, please visit our website.

For BSL





What we can help with

RAD can help with:

- Tackling issues with local authority services, such as delayed or unfair decisions about care and support assessments or services.
- Helping you challenge a workplace discrimination issue, such as unfair dismissal or lack of reasonable adjustments.
- Addressing issues with poor treatment or lack of access to services in healthcare settings, such as hospitals, GPs or dentists.
- Supporting challenges to unfair treatment in education, such as lack of support for students in schools, colleges and universities.
- Assisting with concerns about unlawful detentions or inadequate communication during mental health processes.
- Resolving issues with accessing legal representation or understanding your rights in legal matters.

How we can help

RAD can help with:

- Making a complaint to a healthcare provider, such as a hospital or GP, about inadequate care, lack of interpreters or inaccessible services.
- Ensuring people understand their rights under the Care Act and are fully involved in local authority assessments, care reviews, care and support planning, or safeguarding processes.
- Supporting someone detained under the Mental Health Act to ensure they are aware of their rights and receive accessible communication throughout the process.
- Advocating for you in education settings, such as attending meetings to request additional support for a deaf student.
- Assisting you in challenging unfair housing decisions, such as the refusal of adaptations to make your home accessible.
- Representing your concerns during a meeting with your employer to secure workplace adjustments, such as providing interpreters for team meetings or ensuring accessible training materials.
- Supporting you to appeal a tribunal decision when your rights have not been respected.
- Writing formal letters or assisting you with legal correspondence to ensure your voice is heard.



How it works



If you need Advocacy support, you need to complete a referral form on our website.



One of our team will contact you within five working days to understand your situation and provide tailored assistance.



Together, we'll work towards resolving the issue and ensuring you feel empowered to move forward.

To find out more about RAD's Advocacy services, please contact us via a referral form on our website:



royaldeaf.org.uk

info@royaldeaf.org.uk

0300 688 2525

36 Graham Street, London N1 8GJ

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