

## HOW DOES AN ARTICLE 8 ORDER AFFECT A YOUNG PERSON IN CARE?

This depends on the type of accommodation provided to you by the Trust.

- Voluntarily Accommodated – You or any relevant person can apply for ANY type of Article 8 Order.
- Care Order – The only Article 8 Order which can be made for you is a Residency Order, which means your Care Order will end.

**This leaflet is based on information contained in The Children (NI) Order 1995, Guidance and Regulations Vol 1 'Court Orders & Other Legal Issues'.**



PLEASE NOTE THE INFORMATION ON THIS LEAFLET WAS CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINT

## ARE YOU CONFUSED OR STILL NOT SURE?

If you are uncertain about any aspect of this leaflet, or want some extra support, you can ask for an **Advocate** from VOYPIC and they will be happy to help you.

## HOW DO I GET AN ADVOCATE?

- Ring 08450 742 942 and ask for the Advocacy Service or email [advocacy@voypic.org](mailto:advocacy@voypic.org)
- You will talk to the Duty Advocate. They can offer you help and advice there and then
- If you need to meet someone for further support, they will put you in touch with an Advocate in your area
- It is that easy! Our Duty Advocates are there for you 9.30am-5.30pm, Monday to Thursday and 9.30am – 4.30pm on Friday



**ADVOCACY LINE: 08450 742 942**

9-11 Botanic Avenue, Belfast, BT7 1JG  
Tel: 02890 244 888 Fax: 02890 240 679  
E-mail: [advocacy@voypic.org](mailto:advocacy@voypic.org)  
Website: [www.voypic.org](http://www.voypic.org)



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YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO  
**ARTICLE 8  
ORDERS**

# ARTICLE 8 ORDERS

## WHAT IS AN ARTICLE 8 ORDER?

Courts will make Article 8 Orders to help sort out issues with your family. The court will consider your health and happiness before making an Article 8 Order.

## THERE ARE 4 TYPES OF ARTICLE 8 ORDERS:

### 1. 'A CONTACT ORDER'

This is an order that will name the people in your family you are to have contact with. Contact can include over-night visits, day visits, telephone calls and letters.

### 2. 'A PROHIBITED STEPS ORDER'

This order will mean that your parents may have to ask the court for permission to make certain decision about you e.g. to move you to live in another country.

### 3. 'A RESIDENCE ORDER'

This order will name the person(s) you will live with.

### 4. 'A SPECIFIC ISSUE ORDER'

This order will answer a specific question about how your parents are to care for you e.g. about your education.

## WHO CAN APPLY FOR ARTICLE 8 ORDERS?

### WHO HAS A RIGHT TO APPLY?

- Parents
- Step-parents
- Anyone who you have lived with for at least 3 years in the last 5 years

If you are in care the Trust must give permission to a person wanting to apply for an Article 8 order.



## WHO MUST ASK THE COURT FOR PERMISSION TO APPLY?

- You (the court will need to make sure that you are old enough to apply and can understand how the order will affect you)
- Any other adult – the court will look at how the adult knows you and whether making the order would be good for you
- Grandparents

## HOW LONG WILL THE ORDER LAST FOR?

The order will normally last until you are 16.

## DO I HAVE A SAY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS?

During the process of making any of the Article 8 orders, you have the right to be listened to and for your voice to be heard.

The court has to talk to you about how you feel and give you a chance to tell your story.