

## **Promoting & protecting** children's rights



## Who is the Children's Commissioner?

The Children's Commissioner for England is Anne Longfield OBE.

She speaks up for children and young people so that policymakers and the people who have an impact on their lives take their views and interests into account when making decisions about them.

Independent of Government and Parliament, the Children's Commissioner has unique powers to help bring about long-term change and improvements for all children, particularly the most vulnerable.

She does this by first gathering evidence: talking to children and young people, requesting information from public institutions and then carrying out research and compiling information on the wide range of things that affect children's lives.

She is the 'eyes and ears' of children in the system and the country as a whole and is expected to carry out her duties 'without fear or favour' of Government, children's agencies, and the voluntary and private sectors.

She also provides advice to children who are in or leaving care, living away from home or working with social services through her advice line, Help at Hand.

## Our project on Service Children

The Commissioner's project on Service children forms part of the Commissioner's 'Voices of Children' series of reports. These look in detail at the lives of children whose perspectives/voices may go largely unheard or unnoticed.

In carrying out research with Service children, we aim to better understand the impact of their mobile lifestyle and how it feels to have a parent who is posted/deployed away from home. Additionally, we explore the support that Service children find helpful, along with the areas that they think need to be improved.







