

How often would we meet?

It depends on your situation, but the visit will likely last for a few hours at a time, depending on the type of activity which you have planned, and you will meet at least once a month. Visits will always fit in with any of your activities and routines.

Will they talk to anyone about me?

IVs don't give out any information about you to people outside of NYAS unless they get your permission to do so. A visit report will be submitted to NYAS to let them know how things are going and to claim back expenses. They do have a duty to keep you safe so there are some things they would need to pass on - for instance, if you or someone else is at risk from being harmed in some way.

My favourite thing is just talking and chatting.

I like going to new places with my IV.

What if we don't get on or I don't want an IV anymore?

This is up to you! Your IV Coordinator will be there for you and is someone to speak with if things aren't working out. Just let them know if you feel like you do not need one anymore.

If the relationship ends you can decide how you would like to say goodbye.

Would you like someone to take you out each month to have some fun?

Independent Visitors for young people in care

It's enjoyable, fun and interesting having an IV.

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What is an Independent Visitor (IV)?

As a young person who is in care, you are entitled to an IV. An IV is a volunteer who wants to get to know you and spend time with you so they can build a long-lasting friendship. They are not paid - they volunteer because they want to understand your interests and hobbies through fun activities.

They are there to support, listen and advise you, but mostly have fun with you!

VISITS WITH YOUR IV MUST NOT BE CANCELLED BY CARERS AS A SANCTION FOR UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR.

FACT 

Did you know that it is your right to have an IV?

Young people have a right to an IV if it is seen in their best interests and they would like to have one.

You should have an IV because they are fantastic people and never fail to make me smile.

The best thing to do with my IV is the zoo, bowling, mini golf, walking, and drone flying.

What can I do with my IV?

This is completely up to you! Your IV is there to spend time with you and get to know you. You can suggest places you would like to visit together or activities you are interested in. You can share your hobbies and interests, try new things, and build up a positive relationship with your IV.

Here are some of the things that young people like to do with their IV:

- Meet for a chat and a snack**
 - Go out to your favorite restaurant or watch a movie**
 - Go trampolining**
 - Visit museums and exhibitions**
 - Theme parks**
 - Do sports together e.g., football, badminton or swimming**
 - Go to the park**
- And most of all have FUN!

We want to get the right IV for you!

You can decide on your IV and who you would like to be matched with alongside your local IV Coordinator.

How do I get an IV?

If you are interested in getting an IV, you can speak to one of the following people. They will then get in contact with NYAS for you:

- **Social Worker**
- **Foster Carer**
- **Personal Adviser**
- **Key worker/residential carer**
- **IRO (Independent Reviewing Officer)**
- **Advocate**

What can I expect from my IV?

- **Fun during the visits and to get the most out of activities**
- **To be safe and feel safe**
- **To enjoy a long-lasting match with each other**



Where will I meet my IV?

You will be introduced to your IV in your home for your first visit. After that, you can plan together where you'd like to go and what you'd like to do.

IVs are people who are easy to talk to, they are nice and trustworthy.