Child participation is nowadays considered to be a crucial aspect of child protection and child welfare services. Not only is it a child’s right, it also benefits a child’s development and contributes to identifying the best interventions. However, how to facilitate child participation in daily practice has proven to be difficult, especially in the complex context of child protection services.

This thesis examines the current implementation of child participation in a child protection service organisation in the Amsterdam area, the Netherlands (JBRA). By using a participatory approach, it contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the barriers children and case managers meet in daily practice. The found barriers are translated to recommendations to improve the level of child participation in child protection services, and thereby ultimately, improve the care children receive.