

Children and Young People in Care

Newsletter Volume 1
Issue 2 October



Care Leavers
Independence
Collective

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PG. 2

House Project

PG. 3

Care Leavers

PG. 4

Education, Training
& Employment

PG. 5

Children in Care

ABOUT US

If you are interested in joining our Children in Care Council (ages 11-16), Care Leavers Forum (17-25) or have any improvements for the newsletter please contact the participation team on:

Telephone- 01902 550892

Email- Corporate.Parenting@wolverhampton.gov.uk

HOUSE PROJECT

The House Project was started in Stoke by care leavers who wanted to improve the way they were supported into independence. The success of their work has now transformed into a national project which aims to support and give care leavers the opportunity to renovate a house with a budget given to them and make the property their home. Once they have completed their renovations they can remain in their home for as long as they want.

As part of the project care leavers work alongside skilled trades people and develop skills in carpentry, painting and wallpapering as well as many other DIY skills that will develop their independence..

Over the summer our care leavers forum worked on a pitch to present to the council to encourage them to launch the house project in Wolverhampton.

On the 19th September the pitch was presented along with a passionate speech by Casey Gavin chair of our care leaver forum and Ricky Lowther advisor of the house project to the steering group.

Following the fantastic presentation, the project was approved by the council.

Ricky said: We were delighted to make our pitch to the group and explain to them how the House Project would help young care leavers; we are really grateful that it will be coming to Wolverhampton.”

Delighted with the approval Casey commented: “The House Project coming to Wolverhampton opens up so many doors and opportunities for some of the city's most vulnerable young people, providing an ever-strengthening network of support, important life skills and knowledge could not be a better gift to the future of Wolverhampton.

The House Project will officially be launched on Monday 28th October during Care Leavers Week.



THE
HOUSE
PROJECT

CARE LEAVERS FORUM

[Assistant Corporate Parenting Officer Appointment](#)

Kye Barton and Melissa Moran both impressed the adult and young person panel during interviews to be appointed as the newest members of our team. Their main role will be engaging with care leavers and working with our children and young people in care to improve their experiences and make sure they are kept up to date with opportunities and services available to them.

[Regional Care Leaver Conference](#)

On Tuesday 17th September the Regional Care Leaver Conference was held in Wolverhampton. At the meeting service managers met to discuss how their local authorities support care leavers health needs and what could be done across the West Midlands to provide more support. Care Leavers from Wolverhampton and Sandwell attended and presented different suggestions for health services support including dental and optical care. The recommendations are being looked at with improved offers the focus.

[Care Leavers Week 2019](#)

This year Care Leavers week will run from Thursday 24th- Wednesday 30th October. Care leavers week is a great opportunity to interact with other young people and find out more about what our forum does and how you can get involved. More information about the events will be posted on social media and you can also contact your YPA.

[Social Value Group](#)

A social value group has now been formed to help promote a range of opportunities and support that they can offer to care leavers. The group is made up of different companies and providers that can offer specific opportunities that care leavers are interested in and give them different levels of support. You will be able to meet the providers in the Social Value Group and find out what they have to offer during Care Leavers Week on Friday 25th October at Wolverhampton Uni 1:30pm





EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

[Wolverhampton College Open Day](#)

Saturday 30th November 2019 10am to 2pm

[Walsall College Open Day](#)

Tuesday 26th November 2019 4pm to 7pm

[Sandwell College Open Day](#)

Thursday 7th November 2019 4pm to 7pm, Thursday 14th November 2019 4pm to 7pm and Saturday 16th November 2019 11am to 3pm

[South Staffordshire College \(Rodbaston\) Open Day](#)

Saturday 26th October 2019 10am to 1pm

[Dudley College Open Day](#)

Saturday 19th October 2019 10am to 2pm

[UCAS](#)

If you're applying through your school/college, please check their deadline to get your application in on time. This gives them enough time to read your application and check the information. **The key date is the 15th January 2019 6pm.**

Weekly drop in at The Way Youth Zone for information advice and guidance on education and housing 12pm-4pm.

[Connexions Wolverhampton](#)

Weekly drop in sessions every week at the Civic Centre, Wednesday and Friday 1:30 to 4:30. Ask for Connexions at reception and or you can contact them on 01902 554499

[Apprenticeships](#)

You can find opportunities on

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

You can also find information on education, employment and training vacancies on the following website:

<http://www.wolvesworkbox.com/>



South Staffordshire College



CHILDREN IN CARE



[Regional Children in Care Conference](#)

On Wednesday 30th October the Regional Children in Care Conference will take place at the Hawthorns Stadium. Members of the Children in Care Council will be attending the event to voice their experiences and interact with other young people from across the West Midlands. The programme for the event has been designed by and for young people with workshops and fun elements to the day to encourage all to get involved and have their voice heard.

[MOMO](#)

The Mind of My Own service is now coming to an end with it being replaced by new software. The children in care council have worked on different ideas that they think children and young people in care would find useful as support on the software. This will be available on the new children and young people in care website which is still being redesigned.

MOMO
MIND OF MY OWN

[Make Your Mark/Growing up in Wolverhampton](#)

Thank you for those of you that took part in both the Make Your Mark vote and the Growing Up in Wolverhampton survey. Wolverhampton had the best result in the West Midlands with just under 10,000 young people voting for issues important to them. Over 2,000 young people also filled out the Growing Up in Wolverhampton survey which is also a massive effort to get the voices of young people heard.

Your views have been collected and will go towards the Youth Engagement Strategy which is in the process of being developed. The strategy will look at supporting young people in these 3 themes:

Being healthy: Understanding what keeps young people happy and well

Being Connected: How do young people stay connected with their friends, family and the community

Being You: Making sure young people have the chance to be their best version

Make
Your Mark

Growing Up in Wolverhampton

