

Children and Young People in Care

Newsletter Volume 1
Issue 3 January



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Independence
Collective

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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

TAKE OVER DAY

On Friday 29th November the annual Take Over Day took place in the Council Chambers at the Civic Centre. Take Over Day is an opportunity for young people from across the city to take over the roles of adults and make decisions on the support and opportunities young people should receive.

Members from our youth voice groups including our Children in Care Council, Care Leavers Forum, Youth Council and young people from other groups including Voices for Youth Justice attended the event. Take Over Day was well attended, and all young people present took part in workshops throughout the day and contributed ideas for improvement in different areas of support that young people receive.

Black Country Impact delivered a Youth Employment session which looked at improving the way they support young people to find education and employment opportunities. Suggestions from the young people that attended ranged from improvements to their website to opportunities they should look to provide to suit the interests of different young people.

The group also took part in a workshop looking at the issues of violence across the city and ways in which young people can be encouraged to take up different hobbies to reduce the chances of them becoming involved in violence related issues. Working in small groups they looked at key areas which should be focused on to help make Wolverhampton come more together as a community.

Our Assistant Corporate Parenting Officers led a feedback session including a digital survey around the support young people have available to help them with their emotional well-being. This contributed to the #YES strategy conversations during the session and how the strategy can support young people to be connected, be healthy and how to realize their potential.

The #YES strategy will officially be launched on Monday 27th January at The Way Youth Zone. There will also be a launch for young people on Saturday 15th February from 12pm-2pm at They Way including workshops and information on how the strategy will support and provide opportunities for young people.



CARE LEAVERS FORUM

[NLCBF Event](#)

On Thursday 24th October members of our Care Leavers Forum attended The National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum celebration event. The event consisted of workshops delivered by young people and opportunities for Care Leavers to interact and network with each other. Our Care Leavers had conversations with other authorities across the country regarding their Care Leaver Offers and have put forward their recommendations to the Corporate Parenting Team to further look at.



[Christmas](#)

During the festive period a massive effort was made to make sure Care Leavers had the opportunity to come together and enjoy Christmas. Donations of advent calendars and various other gifts were made to give Care Leavers a Christmas to remember. The mayor also hosted a Christmas hamper raffle with the funds raised used to contribute to the Care Leaver Christmas meal and purchase presents for our young people.



[UASC Training](#)

Our Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and young people in care delivered a training session to a group of professionals on Wednesday 11th December. Their session highlighted the journey of being an UASC and young person in care and gave a powerful message to those who took part. This is the first training session of its kind and due to its success it will continue to be developed and delivered in the future.



[Emotional Well-being Review](#)

If you are under 18 or up to 25 with a special educational need and disability, a parent or professional working with young people in this age range you can now have your say on future emotional well-being services. Please complete the survey on the link below

<https://consultation.wolverhampton.gov.uk/commissioning/emotional-wellbeing-review/>





Learn • Achieve • Succeed



EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

[Wolverhampton College Open Day](#)

Saturday 25th January 2020 10am to 2pm & Wednesday 11th March 2020 4pm to 7pm

[Walsall College Open Day](#)

Saturday 18th January 2020 10am to 2pm & Wednesday 25th March 2020 4pm to 7pm

[Sandwell College Open Day](#)

Thursday 16th January 2020 4pm to 7pm, Saturday 18th January 2020 11am to 3pm, Thursday 5th March 2020 4pm to 7pm & Saturday 7th March 2020 11am to 3pm

[Dudley College Open Day](#)

Saturday 18th January 2020 10am to 2pm & Saturday 14th March 2020 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/>

CHILDREN IN CARE

#YES

The new Youth Engagement Strategy will be launched on Monday 27th January and there will be an event for young people on Saturday 15th February at The Way from 12pm-2pm. The strategy will outline how services will work with children and young families to live happy and healthy Lives. The Co-production charter will also be launched which is a set of promises to children, young people and families that their experiences and opinions will be at the heart of all decision making.

Children in Care Website

Our new website is very close to being completed. The website has been improved with recommendations from our Children in Care Council to make it easier to access for young people and to encourage them to use it more than the last website.

Christmas Party

Our Youth Engagement Christmas Party year was held at WV Active Aldersley on Wednesday 18th December . It was a fantastic turn out of young people with over 60 in attendance. The evening was filled full of party games, Christmas music, food and an overall great atmosphere for our young people to enjoy themselves.

Emotional well-being review

You can now have your say on the services available to young people to support their emotional well-being. Emotional well-being means that you feel comfortable, healthy, happy and enjoy the things you do. The information from the survey will be used to make improvements to the future emotional wellbeing services for young people. If you are interested in having your say and a positive impact on the service please complete the survey on the link below where you will also find more information.

<https://consultation.wolverhampton.gov.uk/commissioning/emotional-wellbeing-review/>

Youth Engagement Strategy #YES



Emotional Wellbeing Review



