



Chair: Danielle May

Children's Champion: Sheila Bates

Coventry Voices of Care



- Independently constituted
- Coventry's Local Children in Care Council
- We provide service user points of view to professionals which help to develop and improve services provided for young people within the care system
- All LAC and Care leavers are members unless they opt out
- We have a very active steering group

V.O.C are involved in...



Coventry Pledge



This is a set of promises to children and young people who are in the care of Coventry City Council. It is a commitment from the council and our partner agencies. We want to ensure that all looked after children and those leaving care, reach their full potential and enjoy the same opportunities in life as their peers.



Our pledge is based around six themes:

Fit for life

- We will make sure you are cared for by people who can help keep you safe and healthy and can teach you to look after yourself
- As you grow older and are ready to move on, we will make sure you are prepared for life – including managing money, looking after your health, cooking healthy food and taking care of where you live

Your views count

- We will listen to you, involve you in decision making and be honest about plans being made
- We will give you the opportunity to tell us what you think makes a good social worker, foster carer and residential worker
- Where possible we will give you a choice about where you live, for example living with other children/young people

Safe and sound

- We will make sure you live in a safe and comfortable place, where you can have your own belongings and special things around you
- We will respond to your concerns about safety

Investing in your future

- We will make more work experience and apprenticeships available for young people in care through city council connections
- We will make sure you have financial support and help with managing your money

You can do it

- We will help you get a good quality education
- We will make sure you can participate in school activities and have the right equipment for school or college
- We will support you to try new leisure or cultural experiences and have a chance to follow a hobby

Coventry cares about you

- We will make sure you know why you are in care
- We will give you the opportunity to have an independent visitor
- We will support you in your contact with family and friends
- We will make sure you have a significant adult taking an interest in your education and life

The Coventry Pledge was designed by Children and Young People, Care Leavers, Elected Members and staff and is facilitated by the Participation Team.

The following positions within Coventry City Council represent the corporate parent in upholding this pledge.

Leader of the Council
Leader of the Opposition
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Chief Executive, Coventry City Council

Executive Director of People Directorate
Children's Champion
Chair, Voices of Care Council
Chair of Coventry Safeguarding Board
Director of Children's Services

- The Pledge was created by young people and ratified by elected members.
- It is a list of promises made by Coventry City Council as corporate parents to the looked after children and care leavers of Coventry.
- Young people were consulted on the Pledge at the end of 2015.
- 37.7% of LAC and 26.4% of care leavers responded
- The findings provide a good snapshot of how our children and young people view the care system in Coventry



Positive Impact



- We challenged practice-Route 21,
- Presentations-Foster Carers Conference, Coventry Partnership AGM
- We inform the recruitment of staff and the commissioning of services
- Raise awareness-Alfie's Journey, Financial package; route 21
- Influence the next workforce- Coventry/Warwick Universities
- Through involvement in consultations provide the council with a broader view of the services they provide.
- Keep the Voice of the Child on the agenda by challenging professionals- Protocol, Life story work

Don't just take our word for it...



Ofsted inspection 2014 stated “ The Children in Care Council (‘Voices of Care Council’) is a model of good practice and there are many examples of children and young people shaping and influencing services, leading to real change and improvements which have made a demonstrable difference to children’s lives”

Thank you for listening, if you
would like more information
about  please contact

Voices of care

c/o The Participation Team

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