



PLEDGE



Children's and
Education Services



We believe children
and young people in
Coventry should always...



be and feel
valued



be and feel
safe



have
opportunities



be and feel
healthy



be and feel
loved



I want to feel safe and settled



We will work with you to ensure you feel safe and secure where you live

- More children are living in kinship arrangements, and we have increased the number of internal children's homes and are focusing on Coventry young people living in Coventry homes where possible and safe to do so.
- <https://becomecharity.org.uk/content/uploads/2025/11/Good-practice-report-by-Become-2025.pdf>
- One of the wellbeing indicators identified through the 'Ask Me What Matters' Project focusses on children and young people's bedrooms, and social workers asking them specific questions about this
- The Bright Spots Survey told us that 100% of children aged 8-11 years old trusted their carers and had a trusted adult in their lives
- The House Project has supported over 60 young people to successfully move to independence- with no evictions to date
- Safe Spaces – through Child Friendly Cov
- Longterm care planning, matching and stability – including additional resources





I want to be physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy

We will support you to be physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy

- Ask Jan (Rees Foundation) is available for care experienced people providing access to comprehensive, practice advice and support. Including 24/7 phone line, live chat, email, and WhatsApp/SMS with a mental health professional providing in the moment support, as well as a counselling offer.
- Kooth Mental Health online support is available to all young people, with training available for carers and workers.
- We have a dedicated children in care CAMHS Team.
- The Operational HeCiC Group have a key focus on securing priority health appointments for care experienced young people, ensuring they have access to the health services they need without delay
- Children in care have an annual health assessment
- Carers support children to access a wide range of activities such as swimming, trampolining, football, rock climbing, access to gym & GoCV+ cards (as reported to CPB)





I want access to services I need. I want services to work together to help me

We will encourage services to work together so that you can access the help you need

- All children's health services across Coventry and Warwickshire are now unified under a single Children's Directorate within Health, enabling more coordinated and consistent support.
- Corporate Parenting Board and responsibilities = One Coventry.
- The Operational HeCiC Group meets quarterly, strengthening partnership working and ensuring health needs of care experienced young people are
- West Midland Violence Reduction Partnerships- Safe Spaces
- Continued review of commissioned services- based on feedback from children in care, care leavers & carers.
- A comprehensive Health Needs Assessment is being completed by Public Health, in consultation with children, young people, carers and social workers.
- Building on trauma informed practice and responses, multi agency support for reunification where possible.



I want support and better access to education, training, and jobs



We will support you throughout your education/ training and help you prepare for employment

- Virtual Schools champion education and Personal Education Plans are completed termly to meet individual needs
- Partnership with the Jobs Shop provides monthly sessions at the House Project to build employability and interview skills
- Increased apprenticeship opportunities through the Council and partners
- University bursaries
- Funding has been secured for EPIC Futures to provide business mentoring for self-employment opportunities for care experienced young people aged 16+
- Increased involvement in young people on interview panels, improving confidence and interview readiness
- Virtual School and Prospects provides support for work and further education ambitions





I want to be happy and have fun. I want to have opportunities to go to places and try new things. I want to be treated the same as any other young person



All young people deserve to be happy and have fun, we will support you to try new opportunities and visit different places

- Ask Me What Matters includes a question around current hobbies and interests, as well as activities that young people would like to try.
- Work continues with Coventry Youth Partnership to make youth offers accessible via the Families Portal
- Through Care FC established with weekly training and FA coaching qualifications
- Care 2 Dance
- Partnership between Coventry Music and Virtual School provides music and performance experiences through Band Together
- Support to carers with holidays and discount scheme for days out
- Plas Dol-y-Moch trips for groups of young people
- Evidence shared through CPB- first trip to the beach, London, Kinship carers trip



I want my social worker to keep me informed. I want workers I can trust, who will answer my questions and sort stuff out for me. I want to be listened to, taken seriously and offered an advocate



All professionals supporting you, will keep you informed and have your best interest at heart. We will treat you with respect, actively listen to you, provide you with the necessary support and guidance you are entitled to, including an advocate when needed

- Change of commissioned advocacy service to Coram Voice, who have delivered a presentation to the workforce to outline the advocacy offer and highlight advocacy is a statutory entitlement for children and young people in our care.
- The role of the Independent reviewing officer
- Both the Ask Me What Matters Project and All About Me focus on ensuring that children and young people's voice is clear. All About Me feeds into Children in Care Reviews, so children's views are clear in their plans.
- 'You said- We did'- Corporate Parenting Board.



I want to feel included. My individuality is important to me. I want to be able to explore and express my identity



We will value your individuality, support you in expressing and exploring your identity, and ensure that you feel included

- The Participation Team is working with Coventry University to create resources that support young people's cultural needs being prioritised when children have to move home, supporting identity and belonging.
- <https://www.coventry.ac.uk/contentassets/0832b8d761aa49a6adb98cf4112b8cfd/expressions-of-self-report.pdf>
- All About Me ensures that Life Story Work is prioritised, identifying the relationships that are most important to young people and enables children to share 'who they are', their dreams and aspirations.
- Lifelong Links continues to be funded through the DfE, supporting young people's identity through the relationships that matter most to them.
- Creating peer support networks e.g. Little Voices, Voices of Care, House Project, Band together, Care 2 Dance,