

Newsletter

Edition One: December 2014



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The Children in Care Council (CiCC) are a group of young people, each of us are either in care or in independent living. There are 12 members and we each have a role within the council.



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Bradley is our record keeper and his brother Jamie is a researcher. There are 4 inspectors; James, Sara, Daniel and Chris.

Our acting Co-ordinator is Mia. That leaves our 2 trainers Grant and Caitlin; and the 2 campaigners, Lewis and Bella.

There is one vacancy currently.

BUT! The CiCC Election 2015 is underway and in the New Year we will have 6 new members of the CiCC. 6 members will sadly be leaving the group. We will give you a list of all the new members in January 2015



The CiCC believe that young people's participation is a vital part of improving the services that are provided to us. It gives children and young people an opportunity to air their views, and tell us what is important to them.



As a Corporate Parent you have a responsibility of ensuring the best for every child and young person in care.

We hope that you ask yourself "if this were my child, is the service they are receiving good enough".

Finding out children and young people's issues and addressing them is what good Corporate Parents do.

The CICC team meet once a month, typically the first Tuesday. A Councillor from the Corporate Parenting Panel attends every meeting. There are many events every month that CiCC members support. For example; conferences, foster carer information evenings, staff interviews, training events, consultation events and so on.

In a survey ran in July 2013 during the CiCC Election the following top 5 issues were raised by children and young people

- Employment, jobs
- Education, qualifications
- Someone to talk to/listen to
- Having a say
- Life skills

Other issues include; housing, placement changes, social worker changes, our health (especially mental health).

On 12th November 2014 the CICC ran a consultation event before the annual Virtual School Awards Ceremony with over 100 young people.

We wanted to try and find out what Warwickshire children and young people in care feel and want

We will circulate our findings as soon as they have been collated.

The **December 2014 CiCC Election** will provide information on what children and young people think is important once again. We can then compare this to the July 2013 findings.

The Children's Commissioner for England is also encouraging a national survey. Warwickshire is taking part. This should also give us more detail about what children and young people in Warwickshire are saying. Lots of information soon from which to plan actions!

By Bella & Mia
Next Edition
April 2015