

Children in Care Council Newsletter

Edition 8, Warwickshire County Council

A member of the CiCC gets their GOLD Duke of Edinburgh Award!

To achieve my Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award I went on a 4 day and night trip to the Peak District, I covered 100 miles across these days and camped each night. I taught maths to year 9, 10 and 11's at GCSE level and completed math challenges. I also volunteered at a Care home and took part in various fundraising activities. I played netball with my team, continuously trained which meant I learnt a lot about working as a team. I will be going to Buckingham Palace to collect my award May 24th 2017.... And I can't wait!

-Mia, a member of the CiCC



New App...MOMO

Warwickshire County Council is looking at a new app called 'MOMO'. MOMO is an app for children and young people in care. The app allows children and young people to communicate with workers about how they are looked after using a mobile phone, tablet or computer.

MOMO is simple to use and is being used in other parts of the country. MOMO is short for "Mind of My Own". Google it! See what you think and let us know.

If this app is approved, it will need to be set up and that takes a lot of planning and preparation.



Updated Annual Foster Carer Review Booklets

Emily (Apprentice Participation worker) has been working with Clare Bradley (Fostering Reviewing Officer) to update the Annual Foster Carer Review Booklets – the bit that children and young people fill in about their foster home. Clare Bradley said:

"Young people's views and comments are essential to help foster carers and fostering services develop and progress the care and support that young people receive in their foster placements. The booklets that Emily has developed for young people to share their views and ideas whilst contributing to their foster carer's annual review have a focus on being fun and accessible across ages from 5+. These new booklets are amazing fun, easy to do, with games, cartoons, quizzes and really importantly give young people the chance to tell us what they think in a relaxed and non-pressurised way.

These new booklets have already been sent out to young people and so far all have had positive comments".

Ages 5-11 booklet



How do you feel about where you live?

Awful Not very good Good Really good

Why is that?

Out of 4, do you get on with your Foster Carers?

1 2 3 4

Do you think your Foster Carers help you when you need them?

Yep! Loads Erm... A little I wish they would help me more

Ages 9-12 booklet



ALOH! me hearties! We need help to get to the treasure... Can you answer all the questions to lead me to the gold?

Tell me 3 things you like about living with your Foster Carers!

Are you afraid of the dark?

Do you think the rules in the house are fair?

Do you feel safe within your house?

Do you feel safe at school?

Do you feel safe around the neighbourhood?

Do you think the rules in the house are good and what rules do you think are bad?

The good rules The not so good rules

Ages 13+ booklet



Do you think you get treated like part of the family – if there are other children in the house... do you all get treated the same?

Write down what you like about living with your Foster Carers!

What rules in the house do you think are good and what rules do you think are bad?

The good rules The not so good rules

Health and well-being workshop

On 1st March 2017, an Emotional Health & Well-Being workshop was run with the Care Leaving Service including staff and young people. The aim of the workshop was to think about and exchange ideas on what changes could support young people to help reduce worry and stress.

One particular activity at the workshop was called "A Walk in My Shoes". Young people and practitioners were paired up. The young people blind folded staff, who then had to rely on the young person to guide them around the building. Whilst it was good fun, this activity helped staff appreciate how it must sometimes feel for a young person in care. Some comments about the workshop on the day were:

"I found the workshop to be informative on how to support children through their emotional journey when they are placed in the care of the Local Authority"

"Very good. The workshop was well planned, catered for all persons present and was very clear and very powerful."



Virtual School Award Ceremony 2017

The Virtual School Award Ceremony is planned for September 2017. The Virtual School Awards celebrate the academic and personal achievements of children and young people living in the care of Warwickshire. This year the Awards ceremony is going to be run differently.

This year's Awards Ceremony is going to be a lot more fun and interactive. The CiCC have come up with a list of ideas that have been shared with the Virtual School Head – Steve Pendleton. Planning for the Awards ceremony has already begun. Have you got any suggestions on activities??? Please get in touch!!!

You can see the CiCC.....

- Priorities
- Pledge
- Care Leavers Charter
- Our Last 6 Newsletters
- The last 6 notes of our meetings

On.....

The CiCC website:
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cicc

National Citizenship Award

Change your summer!
Are you 15 to 17 years-old? Don't miss your chance to do NCS!
You'll live away from home, develop skills to boost your CV, and meet amazing people you'll never forget.
What are you waiting for?
Contact us for more information!

Tel: 07771 513 742

Ask for Shin



Fostering Stability

At the April CiCC meeting we met with Tracy Avill to talk about what more Fostering could do to make fostering placements a better experience for children & young people. Tracy has taken our ideas and will work on them. She will return in September and tell us what has changed.

The House Project..... This is a new exciting project that we have been invited to be a part of which will give young people in care and leaving care an opportunity to develop independent living skills and manage their own homes!!!..... Watch this space! We will write more updates soon!

Please circulate this Newsletter to children and young people that you work with..... Thanks in advance! The CiCC Members.....