

# Cambridgeshire County Council Corporate Parenting Strategy

Children, Young People and Executive's Version

Developed by Voices Matter (Children in Care Council)

2018 - 2021



Cambridgeshire  
County Council

## Who is this summary for?

This Summary of the Corporate Parenting Strategy is for Children, Care Leavers, carers, birth family and relevant professionals. There is a full Corporate Parenting Strategy, but this summary makes it simple to read and understand.

### What is a 'Corporate Parent'?

Everyone who works with Looked After young people and care leavers is a corporate parent. This can be a social worker, councillor and other professionals who work in health, housing and education. Being a corporate parent means to take responsibility for doing everything that a good parent should do for Looked After children and care leavers.

## Corporate Parenting Strategy

The Corporate Parenting Strategy has been written based on what Looked after Children and Care Leavers have told us about their experience of being in care. This feedback has included information about what is working well and where there is a need for improvements. Of course it also includes essential requirements such as being seen by your social worker, attending school and health checks. However we have listened to Looked after Children and really want to make a difference to those things that matter to them such as fear of bullying, having someone they trust and can talk to and seeing family.

### Who makes the Corporate Parent Strategy a real 'Thing'?

We've grouped this feedback within 6 'outcome areas': Relationships, Safety, Well-Being, Achieving, Recovery and Reunification. For each area there is a group of designated lead professionals. Each group is made up of social workers, Elected Members and other professionals, for example from health and education.



## Corporate Parenting Sub Committee



The Corporate Parenting Sub Committee meets every other month. The meeting is made up of Elected Members, the Assistant Director of Children Services and two Care Leavers. Other professionals go to these meetings as required. The job of the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee is to see how well progress is being made on the 6 main areas (above) in the Corporate Parenting Strategy. So, if things aren't changing quickly enough for Looked after Children or Care Leavers the Committee will ask the Council 'why not'. This is how the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee promotes children's rights and wishes alongside ensuring that they are well cared for and have the best life opportunities possible.

## The Promises to Looked After Children and Care Leavers

The Children in Care Council, Voices Matter has come up with a set of Promises the Corporate Parenting Committee and the whole Council make to Looked After Children and Care Leavers.

These are:



## Monitoring the Promises

The teams who work with Looked after Children and Care Leavers (the Corporate Parenting Service) has to check out that everyone is working together to make sure the Promises are being met. The Corporate Parenting Service write regular reports to the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to show that the Promises are being kept to.



## Being Involved

You can be involved in Committee meetings (mentioned above) to give your opinions.

Or you can come along to one of the children and young people's groups run by the Participation service.

Ask your worker about this or email [csc.participation@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:csc.participation@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)