



Monday 20th March 2017
Corporate Parenting Panel update –
On behalf of the Children in Care Councils and Young Adult Council

February Half Term

13th February – Revolution Skate Park. 37 young people attended

17th February – This Art of Mine. 41 young people attended

OCYPC

We had 12 OCYPC members. The group discussed what makes a good foster carer and the reasons.

Answers included:

- Nice cooking (taking the time to find out what they like to eat)
- Understanding and supportive (so they can talk to them, when anything happens)
- Taking them to fun places (Good to get out of the house, and try new things)
- Loving (Someone who makes you feel safe, and not in it for the money)
- Patience (shows they care)
- Freedom and boundaries (if they have no boundaries, they will keep being naughty. Gives them a chance to grow as a person)

The OCYPC members then discussed what they don't want their foster carers to be. Answers included:

- Treat them differently to their own children (they are meant to care and not compare to other children)
- Embarrassing you in public (sharing too much information – but not personal stuff and shouting at you in public)
- Shouldn't stop them having food when they are naughty
- Force them into doing something they don't want to do

Super Council

14 Super Council members attended our meeting in February. In this meeting we focused on the 'Top 10 Qualities of a Foster Carer' all of the young people got fully involved. They also spoke very highly of their own foster carers which was so refreshing to hear. The most common qualities that we noticed were:

- Funny
- Loving
- Kind
- Amazing
- Makes nice food
- Understanding
- Happy
- Patient
- Respects me
- Positive

Challenges from YAC

The YAC group suggested a skills demo day where we could invite local businesses to show young people practical skills like bleeding a radiator, changing a lightbulb safely and other general household jobs that some young people haven't been taught.



Targeted Participation Days

The first session was held at Kingswood Outdoor Activity Centre in Ashford on the 15 February where 14 young people attended. Alongside team-building activities, we gathered the views of young people as to what areas of pathway planning to focus on that will therefore be of most use to them. We went through the Pathway Plan and the young people decided they wanted to focus on 4 areas as they felt these were the areas they needed more support in. They were:

- Cooking
- Education
- Health
- Budgeting

We also ran a competition for young people to name their assessment tool workbook; Peter Oakford chose the winning name 'It's All About Me'. The next workshop dates are:

- Thursday 6th April
- Wednesday 12th April
- Tuesday 30th May
- Friday 28th July

Easter Holiday Events

Monday 3rd April – Recruitment and Selection Training for Young People

Tuesday 4th April – Super Council & OCYPC meeting

Wednesday 5th April – Rare Breeds Centre Activity Day

Thursday 6th April – 16+ Transition Day Activity Session and YAC Meeting

Friday 7th April – The Hop-Farm

Monday 10th April – Wingham Wildlife Park or Wildwood Activity Day

Tuesday 11th April – Gliding Activity Day (16+ YP only)

Thursday 13th April – Kent Life Heritage Farm Park

IRO Film

Some of our young people and apprentices have been involved with the production of the IRO Film "Chairing Your Own Review". This film was produced with the IRO Service, and will be shown to professionals and young people to encourage young people to participate in their reviews and to highlight the importance of young people getting their views across.