



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017

Corporate Parenting Panel Update –

On behalf of the Children in Care Councils and Young Adult Council

**Whitsun Half Term Holiday Activities**

- Nelson Park Riding Centre – horse riding (18 young people attended)
- Team Tutsham – horse riding (24 young people attended)

**OCYPC & Super Council**

- Team building activity day at Kingswood Outdoor Activity Centre – to build relationships between members of the Super Council and OCYPC by way of a first steps approach to encourage some older Super Council members to move up to the OCYPC. They suggested that a 'Bio Book' would be good for new members to look through before they join the council.
- 20 members of our OCYPC & Super Council attended.

**YAC**

Rob Sparks (Education Employment and Training Support Officer) from the 18+ team joined us to speak about interview skills. He offered everyone 7 Top Tips on things what to do when going for an interview.

- Appearance/Presentation- Dress to impress
- Body language.
- Be on time.
- Make Good First impressions
- Do research on the organisation.
- Ask to get questions repeated if you don't understand.
- Ask questions about the company.

The YAC group all suggested various charities they would like to raise money for this year. The Charity chosen was for the Canterbury Umbrella Centre. **(See flyer for more details)**

**Summer Activities**

- **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July** ( DCS Family Fun Day VSK Supporting this event)
- **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July** (Bewl Water 32 YP)
- **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July** (County Wide CIC Event)



- **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August** (Heaver Castle 24YP)
- **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August** (16+ & YAC Trip Thorpe Park)
- **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August** (Creed Outdoor Learning 30YP)
- **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August** (Little Potters 12YP)
- **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August** (Railway Children 20YP)
- **Friday 25<sup>h</sup> August** (West Kent Family Fun day VSK Supporting)

### **Centrepont research launch – From care to where?**

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the Macmillan Room at Portcullis House, 1 Parliament St, Westminster. Naintara Khosla, Joanne Carpenter, Sophia Dunstan, Chloe Mutton, Chelsea Goodwin, Andrew McDonald and Mark Weinel went to the report launch of From care to where? The charity supports Care Leavers to be stable and for them to achieve a positive outcome. There were other industries at the launch; such as London Borough of Havering, CenterPoint, House of Commons, Westminster City Council and many more.

A safe and secure home is the foundation on which Care Leavers can build their lives after care. Have this base means that they can fulfil ambitions, gain qualifications or enter work, establish themselves within a community.

They share their key findings of young people's barrier to accessing and sustaining tenancy. The difficulties that were addressed were:

- Access to housing
- Affordability
- Poor preparedness to manage a tenancy
- Loneliness and poor mental health
- Insufficient ongoing support
- Unsafe housing and homelessness

Another point that Care Leavers felt strongly about, is that Care Leavers are the responsibility of the Corporate Parent and the government duty is to ensure that Care Leavers receive the support they need to help achieve guidelines to independence. This can be done by formally reviewing their Pathway plan process in consultation with looked-after and care leavers to ensure it is accessible and flexible. This will reduce sofa surfing, sleeping rough, care leavers feeling unsafe in their accommodation and for them to receive the right support for the individual needs.