



Monday 18th September 2017

Corporate Parenting Panel Update –

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

Show Film - made with the help and support of all the children that attended our activities days over the Summer holidays.

Summer Holiday Activities

- DCS Family Fun Day (VSK Supported this event)
- Bewl Water (40 YP attended)
- County Wide CIC Event (30YP attended)
- Hever Castle (30 YP attended)
- 16+ & YAC Trip Thorpe Park (15 YP attended)
- Creed Outdoor Learning, at Bay Point (30YP attended)
- Little Potters (15 YP attended)
- Railway Children (22 YP attended)
- West Kent Family Fun day (VSK Supported)

Good News!

We are hoping to have 2 more apprentices joining our team soon, and are going to be advertising again shortly.

Countywide

The Countywide Children in Care Celebration was held on Monday 31st July 2017. The event was attended by young people in care who attended the children in care councils over the past year, and also some who wanted a taster of what the Children in Care Councils are about. Member of the Corporate Parenting Panel attended the event and met with our young people.

We started the day off with making keyrings with lanyards the colours of our teams and playing games such as twister and limbo. After Philip Segurola welcomed everyone, we delivered and looked at what the Councils have been up to throughout the past year. A young person from each Council assisted with presenting the hard work they have done working together and what they enjoy about their Council. Then Roger Gough and Naintara Khosla presented rewards and certificates to our Council members for all their hard work and commitment.

We then had a discussion between our tables about what barriers are that prevent young people in care from attending the councils, while having our discussion there where sweets to nibble on. After that we shared our points with the other groups and placed all the ideas on a board. Then we



had a break to enjoy chocolate brownies, lemon cakes and scones with cream and jam, while having some free time to play some games.

Later on after all the cakes were finished we got in our teams for the Countywide Sports Day. The events were, the three legged race, the skipping race, the bean bag team toss, the sack race and the team inflatable obstacle race; what ended up to be lots of laughs and giggles. Finally we ended the day by having free play on the inflatable obstacle course and nibbling on personalized Children in Care Council cakes.

Centrepoint Launch

On Monday 17th July 2017 The Participation Team went with Naintara to a Research Launch at Portcullis House in London. The research launch was about on the reasons why Care Leavers become homeless and what Local Authorities can do to help prevent future homelessness of Care Leavers. There were many reasons listed, and everyone took these on board and shared ideas on ways to prevent it. The meeting was very useful to the participation team and we will be looking at how we share this with the Young Adult Council.

Regional Children in Care Council Meeting

Some of us attended the South East Regional Children in Care Council meeting which was held Oxford. They were presented with videos about stigma about Children in Care and how it can affect a young person and how they can tackle the issue as a young person and how to assist the young person facing sigma as a professional. They got to hear the voices of young people and what stigma felt and meant to them. Also they had the chance to compare Kent's pledges with other Councils in an open discussion and they learnt that Kent County Council is the only council with three Children in Care Councils; for different age groups. The young people also got to question the corporate parents about their rights as children in care and care leavers.

Autumn Half term Activities

- 23rd October (EK/SK Arts and crafts day, 48 YP which will be split into 2 sessions)
- 25th October (WK/NK Arts and crafts day 48 YP which will be split into 2 sessions)

YAC

Andrew Rist came to the last YAC meeting to speak about the Life Long Links Project. Andrew explained what he and his team do. He explained that they have started a new project called "Life Long Links". He showed a presentation to the YAC members, what the project will look like. He then asked the YAC members, what they felt, how they can fit in and what they can do to help them.

Some feedback included:-

- Use cartoons as an example of a mobility map
- A couple of members would be interested if it was offered to them in the future
- Young children might not understand the process and get the wrong idea



- Make a leaflet with questions for young people, so they get a better understanding
- Mobility Mapping – is helpful, engaging and fun

We have started a regular agenda item at YAC – called YAC-#Life Hacks – this is going to be a way we can give tips and hints on independent living skills but in a fun way and engaging way. For example: an easy way to put a duvet cover. We are asking YAC members to bring their own life hacks to future meetings with a view to producing a document/pack to share with a wider audience.

YAC also have their fundraiser coming up on the 26th October at Sessions House. This is a “Virtual Triathlon” From County Hall Maidstone to Calais and back. All proceedings will go to the Umbrella Centre in Canterbury, which is a charity that provides support for people with Mental Health Illnesses. So please pop down and show your support for our staff and YAC members, whether it is to buy cake, donate, cheer us on or take part during your free time. (Thank you)

Other workstreams:

- Supporting the VSK Awards Ceremony, which was yesterday – more information about this great day will be coming to you
- Supporting a Canterbury Project – providing a Christmas dinner and some fun and games for care leavers on Christmas Day who have nowhere to go
- Art Competition for CiC – with a theme of Autumn