

Our
**COMING IN TO
CARE**
Pledge



This Pledge has been designed by cared for children, young people and care leavers.

This is a Pledge for all cared for children, young people and care leavers in Cheshire East.

This is important to us because we want to make sure that we do all we can to protect you and meet the individual needs of all children and young people in our care.

We want to do this by making sure we understand you, support you and protect you.

We will do this by offering praise, recognition of each of you as an individual and providing you with positive energy.

The Pledge is supported by all those making decisions for cared for children and young people in Cheshire East.

This Pledge is based on the rights you all have under the United Nations Convention of the Child (UNCRC). This tells us that we have to respect your rights and make sure you are involved in making decisions about you. Most importantly it is to make sure that you receive the best and right care.



To communicate with you openly and honestly by:

- ▶ Explaining the decisions we make about you.
- ▶ Keeping you informed about what is happening about your care.
- ▶ Making sure you have the right information about what is happening to you.

To respect your right to confidentiality by:

- ▶ Keeping your information secure and confidential.
- ▶ Discussing and asking your permission when sharing your information with other people, agencies or services.
- ▶ Protecting your identify and who you want to know that you are cared for.

To work with you in a positive and non-judgemental way by:

- ▶ Supporting you with decisions that impact on your life.
- ▶ Not to judge you on choices you make but try to guide you in the right direction.
- ▶ Being respectful of the decisions that you make.
- ▶ Providing you with information to make informed choices.

Support your physical health and wellbeing by:

- ▶ Making sure you can access the services of a doctor (GP), optician and dentist.
- ▶ Making sure you are offered and involved in your health assessments and health care planning.
- ▶ Offering you opportunities for a healthy diet and lifestyle.
- ▶ Ensuring that you have a clearly identified health practitioner (Health Visitor, School Nurse or Cared for Nurse) with whom you and your carers can communicate with.



Support your emotional health and wellbeing by:

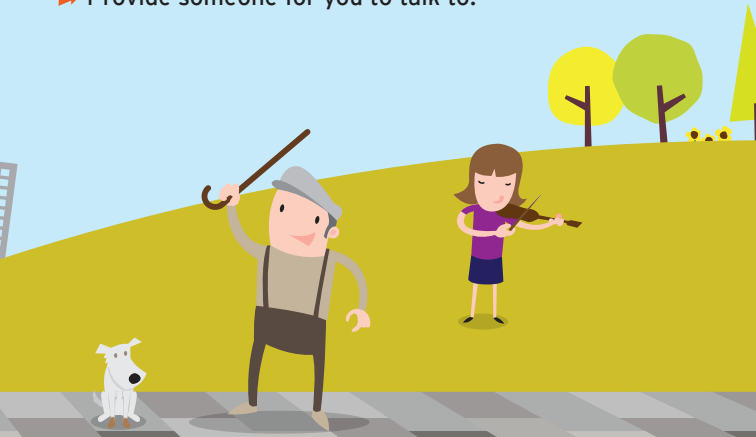
- ▶ Making sure you have someone you trust to confide in and talk to.
- ▶ Helping you to get the support and help you need.
- ▶ Giving information about services that can support you emotionally.

Involve you in decisions that affect your life by:

- ▶ Communicating with you about decisions that are going to be made.
- ▶ Making sure we get your views on issues and decisions that affect you.
- ▶ Respecting your right to be involved in decisions that affect you.

Leaving Care and moving on to independent life by:

- ▶ Supporting you to make decisions about your future education and employment.
- ▶ Make sure that you have all the information you need to access help for practical, emotional and medical support.
- ▶ Supporting you in understanding how to set up a home, such as organising and paying bills and other life skills such as cooking and cleaning.
- ▶ We will make sure that you have the right documents to open a bank account.
- ▶ Helping you fill out forms and applications to support you into adulthood.
- ▶ Supporting you to make positive and practical decisions about your life.
- ▶ Providing the right support to have positive family and social relationships.
- ▶ Taking a flexible approach and providing support for you as long as it is needed.
- ▶ Provide someone for you to talk to.



We aim to do our best to:

Keep you safe by:

- ▶ Providing a happy, settled and secure surroundings at home.
- ▶ Ensuring that you are able to contact your Social Worker when you need to.
- ▶ Protecting you from harm.
- ▶ Making sure someone is there for you when you need them.

To support you to pursue new interests by:

- ▶ Supporting you with your learning.
- ▶ Doing our best to support you with your hobbies.
- ▶ Supporting you to try out new things and have new experiences.
- ▶ Encourage you to get involved in activities you are interested in.

To help you achieve by:

- ▶ Helping you fulfil your full potential.
- ▶ Supporting you into education, college, higher education or employment.
- ▶ Make young people aware of opportunities that are available.
- ▶ Provide you with information so you can make the best decision about your future.
- ▶ Working with you to focus and build on your strengths.

To listen to you by:

- ▶ Always giving the opportunity for children and young people to have 'one to one' time with their Social Worker.
- ▶ Providing an advocacy service for children and young people who are cared for.
- ▶ Promoting opportunities for children and young people to have a voice such as through the Children in Care Council and Youth Council.
- ▶ Making sure you know about how to make compliments and complaints and how to let us know what things are like for you.



Our COMING IN TO CARE Pledge

This is a Pledge for all cared for children, young people and care leavers in Cheshire East.

- ▶ We want to make sure we support you and protect you.
- ▶ We will respect your rights and involve you in decisions that are about you.
- ▶ We promise that when caring for you we will be...



Keeping you safe:

- ▶ Protecting you from harm and keeping you safe.
- ▶ Someone is there for you when you need them.

Supporting your interests:

- ▶ Opportunities to learn.
- ▶ Trying new things, activities and hobbies.

Helping you achieve:

- ▶ Working with you to build on your strengths and reach your potential.
- ▶ Supporting you with education and employment and in making decisions about your future.

Listening to you:

- ▶ Always getting 'one to one' time with your Social Worker.
- ▶ Giving you opportunities to have a voice through Children's Rights Advocacy and the Children in Care Council.
- ▶ Talking to you.

Communicating with you openly and honestly:

- ▶ Keeping you informed about what is happening about your care and explaining decisions.

Respecting confidentiality:

- ▶ Keeping your information confidential and speak to you about who we need to share it with.

Being positive and non-judgemental:

- ▶ Guiding you and giving you information but supporting and respecting the decisions you make.

Supporting:

Physical health and well-being:

- ▶ Making sure you have access to the services you need and are involved in your health assessments and planning.

Emotional health and well-being:

- ▶ Giving you support and making sure you have someone you trust to confide in and talk to.

Involving you in decisions:

- ▶ Getting your views, involving and communicating with you about decisions that are going to be made.

Helpful when you leave care and move on to independent life:

- ▶ Supporting you to make practical and positive decisions about important things such as education, employment, health and housing.
- ▶ Making sure you have the right documents and information to do this.
- ▶ Being there for you to talk, listen and provide flexible support when you need it.



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