

As you are a Kent Care Leaver we specifically promise to:

- If you are eligible, Make sure you are able to get a passport, and arrange for your National Insurance number to be issued
- Help and support your progress in education, both in further education and at university
- Find you somewhere safe to live and provide the necessary support you need to live independently. Up until you are 21, help you with council tax and make sure you don't lose out on housing benefit if you are in education, training or low-paid employment
- If you are at Uni we will support you with a financial pack-age that includes the government bursary
- If you have a disability, make sure that you have your own 'communication passport' that tells others how you communicate and how they can communicate with you
- If you need to move to Adult Services, make sure the move is as smooth as possible
- You can obtain a list of what you are entitled to from your social worker or Personal Advisor

Help us to celebrate your achievements by keeping in touch, and tell us when you need help, sooner, rather than later



Things not going right?

What should you do if don't think these promises are being met:

You can always speak to your Social Worker
Or

You can ask for an advocate (this is a person who is independent of Kent County Council who can speak on your behalf and help make sure your voice is heard)

You Can Contact:

Voice Telephone: **0808 800 5792**

Email: help@voiceyp.org

NYAS Telephone **0300 330 3131**

Email: help@nyas.net

Our Children and Young People's Council is a group of young people in care or leaving care who meet up with Participation Worker Apprentices from the Virtual School Kent.



The meetings give young people the chance to have their say on what they feel needs to be improved and what they want changed about the care system.

To find out more: Telephone **01227 284490**
Email: VSK_participation@kent.gov.uk



Our
Promise
to care leavers

The Kent Care
Leavers' Charter

Leaving care can be a difficult time

Kent, as your 'Corporate Parent' can be there to guide and support you through it.

This Charter is Kent County Council's promise to you to help support you when you leave care. It follows on from the Kent Pledge made to Children and Young People in the Care of Kent. We are committed to ensuring that you, as a Care Leaver have access to the best possible chances in life when making the transition from being in care to independence.

Some of you will be going through immigration process, we will ensure you are supported with this. You will also be able to contact us after the service to you closes for any advice and support you may need.



Let us support you to achieve your ambitions and aspirations in education, training and employment.

Here is Kent's charter to you as you leave care. We promise to listen, support and guide you to grow into healthy, happy and successful young adults. We can do this by working together.

We will respect you and honour your identity as an individual, taking into consideration your own values, beliefs and personal needs

We will make sure we ask you about important decisions that need to be made

We will believe in you. We will support your potential goals and help you to achieve them

We will keep you safe and well by making sure where you live is safe and the right place for you, we will give you the right guidance to live a healthy life

We will make sure you keep in touch with family and friends as much as possible whilst considering your safety and well-being. We will help you manage changing relationships or come to terms with loss, trauma or other important life events

We will give you support throughout your education, training and employment to give you the chance to succeed

We will try to minimise any changes to placements or workers

We will work with other services for any changes in the law that affect the lives of young people

If we don't agree with you, we will fully explain why, and we will be honest with you

We want to help you to be where you want to be. We will make sure we give you the information that you need at every stage in your move to adulthood

We will point you in the right direction and help you move along at your own pace

We will take the time to listen to you and do our best to give the right advice if things aren't going well for you

We will continue to be there for you, so get in touch with us if you need to