

# UWS CORPORATE PARENTING PLAN

2015 -2018



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WEST of SCOTLAND  
**UWS**

# Introduction

The University of the West of Scotland (UWS) is an inclusive university and has one of the highest populations of students from non-traditional backgrounds in Scotland. UWS aims to maintain this level of students and continue to support these students to achieve their very best, through a wide range of initiatives and developments from pre-entry to graduation and beyond.

At UWS the number of Care Experienced Young People (CEYP) has risen by over 500% from 2008 to the present day. The University was awarded the Buttle UK Quality Mark in 2009 and 2012 to recognise the standard of support we provided to this vulnerable group. Although the Quality Mark initiative has now ended, we continue to strive to maintain and develop our standard of care and support for CEYP and this is reflected in our Corporate Strategy 2017-20<sup>1</sup> and Outcome Agreement 2017/18<sup>2</sup>.

Our students come from a variety of routes direct from school, via college, from looked-after and care experience backgrounds to mature students or adult returners who have decided to return to study after employment or alternative life paths.

The term 'Looked After Children' encompasses those looked after at home; in a residential facility; by relatives in kinship care or in foster care. Previously, those young people who had reached the age of 16 were known as Care Leavers. The term 'Care Experienced Young Person' is now more widely used and promoted by Who Cares? Scotland to encompass all young people who have experience of being cared for or looked after.

UWS also supports care experienced students who return to study in later life and enter university through the college route into Year 1 from one of the many Scottish Wider Access Programmes or through one of our many articulation routes into Year 2/3 with an HNC or HND. We work closely with colleagues from the Scottish Wider Access Programme and our College Transitions Team to ensure that support is given to students coming to UWS and that their needs can be met on an individual basis through 1-1 support from the Senior Widening Participation Development Officer (SWPDO).



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.uws.ac.uk/about-uws/a-21st-century-university/corporate-strategy-plans/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/outcome-agreements-1718/uws-outcome-agreement-2017-18.pdf>

# What is a Corporate Parent?

Corporate Parents have a responsibility to understand the lives of Scotland's Care Experienced Young People (CEYP) and to respond to their needs as any parent should. The Statutory Guidance on Corporate Parenting defines it as:

"An organisation's performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development is promoted." (Scottish Government, 2015)

Between 2006 and 2008, a range of publications and resources drew attention to the needs of looked after children; **Extraordinary Lives** (2006)<sup>3</sup>, **Looked After Children and Young People: We Can and Must do Better** (2007)<sup>4</sup> and **These are our Bairns** (2008)<sup>5</sup>. Each highlighted the importance of corporate parenting in order to improve the experiences and outcomes of looked after children. At this time, the term 'corporate parenting' largely referred to local authorities, although other public bodies were encouraged to align their practices with these policies.

CEYP have always been a priority group for UWS. Our service delivery to these young people has previously been shaped by a range of legislative, strategic and policy drivers such as the **Supporting of Young People Leaving Care** (Scotland) Regulations 2003<sup>6</sup>, the **Additional Support for Learning Act 2004** (Amended 2009)<sup>7</sup>, **Getting it Right for Every Child** (GIRFEC) (2008)<sup>8</sup>.

Recommendations 37 and 38 made in the report by the Commission for **Developing Scotland's Young Work Force** (2014)<sup>9</sup> specifically relate to looked after young people and more recently in the **Blueprint for Fairness Report** (2016)<sup>10</sup> the Commissioner for Widening Access, Sir Peter Scott, made recommendations to make degree level study more accessible for CEYP. This report introduced the Care Leavers Bursary which has lessened the financial burden for those students who have a care background. The most recent report **Implementing a Blueprint for Fairness Report** (2017)<sup>11</sup> details the progress made on the recommendations.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2006/08/07134204/0>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2007/01/15084446/0>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/resource/doc/236882/0064989.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2004/03/19113/34719>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2009/11/03140104/3>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/resource/doc/1141/0065063.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0045/00451746.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/blueprint-fairness-final-report-commission-widening-access/>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/05/9472>



# Why is Corporate Parenting Important?

As a Corporate Parent we aim to encourage people and organisations to do as much as they can to make sure CEYP are able to overcome the barriers they face. Research confirms that, generally, looked after children and young people are much more likely to face poorer life experiences. We know that some looked after young people do achieve positive outcomes. Unfortunately, however, for most care-experienced young people, the outcomes are much less positive, and can result in lower educational attainment, significant under achievement and life chances that are largely reduced. CEYP are:

- 7 times more likely to be excluded from school
- Much more likely to leave school at an earlier age
- Much more likely to leave school with little or no qualifications
- Much more likely to experience health problems
- Much more likely to drink, smoke, take drugs

Whilst further education is the main positive destination for CEYP, only 4% progress to higher education. Nearly half of 5-17 year olds who have a mental health disorder and 50% of the Scottish adult prison population are care experienced. For CEYP gaining qualifications at school, accessing further or higher education or gaining employment

is made more difficult because of the many additional barriers they face and the emotional impact of being in care.

Their outcomes in life can be much poorer due to separation from parents and family; interrupted schooling; having to change school and accommodation frequently and losing their peer support networks. Many CEYP suffer from loss of confidence and self-esteem making it harder for them to believe that they do have the ability to succeed. At UWS, we strive to help CEYP overcome these barriers through offering a range of support and by working in partnership with other Corporate Parents as detailed in our Corporate Parenting Plan (Appendix (i)).

## **Our Duties as Corporate Parents**

Part 9 of The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, which came into effect on the 1st of April 2015, makes specific provision for looked after children and care leavers, providing a legislative framework for corporate parenting. Within the Act, universities are named as one of 24 public bodies to which corporate parenting duties apply. The Act confers six new statutory duties on the named Corporate Parents including SDS. As laid out in Section 58, we must:

- Be alert to matters which, or which might, adversely affect the wellbeing of an eligible young person
- Assess the needs of eligible children and young people for any services or support provided
- Promote the interests of eligible children and young people
- Seek to provide eligible children and young people with opportunities to promote their wellbeing
- Take appropriate action to help eligible young people access those opportunities
- Keep our approach to corporate parenting under constant review, seeking out improvement wherever possible.

Under sections 60–65 corporate parents must also publish (and keep under review) detailed corporate parenting plans and reports, collaborate with each other, follow directions and guidance, and provide relevant information to Scottish Ministers.

## Corporate Parenting at UWS

Since being awarded the Buttle UK Quality Mark in 2009, signing the **Who Cares? Scotland Pledge to Listen** in 2015 and the **Scottish Care Leavers Covenant** in 2017, UWS has been aware of the duty of care to support CEYP and other vulnerable groups. Our Corporate Strategy states:

*"Our purpose is to change lives, transform communities and encourage enterprise through outstanding, distinctive and progressive higher education."<sup>12</sup>*

As a Corporate Parent we are asked to collaborate and work in partnership with other Corporate Parents; to give CEYP a voice within the University; to create, implement and develop a Corporate Parenting Plan and to provide a Corporate Parenting Report every three years.

Corporate Parenting is not the duty of a specific individual or team within the University but a duty which we all have, regardless of job role and our Corporate Parenting Plan (Appendix (i)) therefore outlines the actions we will take within the University of the West of Scotland in partnership with other Corporate Parents and relevant organisations outwith the University to support CEYP to make positive choices in order to achieve their goals.

## Statement of Intent

We have created a 'Statement of Intent' that is included in all our publicity materials offering information, advice and guidance for care experienced applicants and students in order to show our commitment as a Corporate Parent and to inform them of our intent to help them meet their goals. Our statement is as follows:

***The University of the West of Scotland is an inclusive university committed to ensuring that every student gets the most out of their university experience, regardless of their personal circumstances or background. To meet this commitment, we have developed a wide range of support services to ensure that all students fulfil their potential, achieve their goals and enjoy their time at UWS. We have a strong tradition of working with care experienced applicants and students and this commitment is embedded in all of our provision. This is a strategic priority for UWS and we will continue to work in partnership both internally and externally with other Corporate Parents to provide information, advice and guidance so that our care experienced students will have a positive experience at UWS from pre-entry to after graduation.***

## Named Person

In order to provide ease of support, the University has a Named Person who supports CEYP and Estranged Students across all campuses. The Senior Widening Participation Officer, Jane O'Rorke, coordinates and develops support and her contact details are as follows:

### Jane O'Rorke

Senior Widening Participation Development Officer

Recruitment, Admissions and Participation Services

Room H216, Elles Building South  
University of the West of Scotland  
Paisley Campus, Paisley PA1 2BE

Tel: 0141 849 4126

Email: jane.ororke@uws.ac.uk

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.uws.ac.uk/about-uws/a-21st-century-university/corporate-strategy-plans/>

# Appendix (i)

RAISING ASPIRATIONS, OUTREACH AND PRE-ENTRY SUPPORT				
Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
University of the West of Scotland (UWS) Statement of intent regarding welcoming applications from Care Experienced Young People (CEYP)	A statement of intent to support all CEYP is included in the UWS Website and all publicity materials.	Creation of a Statement of Intent and for the UWS website and all relevant publicity materials.	Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Help access'	<p>The Statement of Intent is included in all publicity materials relating to CEYP and also on the UWS website. The statement is as follows:</p> <p><b><i>'The University of the West of Scotland is an inclusive university committed to ensuring that every student gets the most out of their university experience, regardless of their personal circumstances or background. To meet this commitment, we have developed a wide range of support services to ensure that all students fulfil their potential, achieve their goals and enjoy their time at UWS. We have a strong tradition of working with care experienced applicants and students and this commitment is embedded in all of our provision. This is a strategic priority for UWS and we will continue to work in partnership both internally and externally with other Corporate Parents to provide information, advice and guidance so that our care experienced students will have a positive experience at UWS from pre-entry to after graduation.'</i></b></p>

## RAISING ASPIRATIONS, OUTREACH AND PRE-ENTRY SUPPORT

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Work in partnership to provide information, guidance and advice and pre-entry support to CEYP	Continue to develop and liaise with Corporate Parents in particular around our campuses and UK wide where relevant	Engage with relevant colleagues and organisations around our campuses to provide current information	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	The SWPDO has built strong relationships with colleagues who support CEYP in the community such as: colleagues in Local Authorities; Social Work; Childrens' Services; schools; Throughcare & Aftercare Teams; Pathway Progression Contacts; Scottish Throughcare & Aftercare Forum (Staf); FocusWest ( <a href="http://www.focuswest.org.uk/">http://www.focuswest.org.uk/</a> ) and Quarriers Coaching for Life participants ( <a href="https://quarriers.org.uk/services/coaching-for-life/">https://quarriers.org.uk/services/coaching-for-life/</a> )
Provide pre-entry 1-1 support	Continue to offer pre-entry customised support for CEYP	Increase the number of pre-entry consultations with CEYP and those who work with and support them.	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	The SWPDO provides 1-1 customised support for CEYP thinking about coming to university and those who support them in the community. The number of pre-entry meetings has increased in the past 3 years from 5 to 15 students and is a vital part of pre-entry support. The SWPDO is also working in partnership with UWS International Advisors and the UWS Regional Manager for Europe to create specific information and advice for CEYP from outside the UK.
Inclusion of CEYP in all appropriate UWS initiatives and activities	Continue to include CEYP in all relevant widening access activities	CEYP are a target group and are monitored in all School and Widening Participation activities including: Routes for All; Access to a Career in Teaching and also all activities offered by the Schools.	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	Colleagues within Academic Schools; the Widening Participation and College Transition Teams include CEYP in all their activities and events.  We are working towards having a tick box on all registration documents for all WP activities.

## RAISING ASPIRATIONS, OUTREACH AND PRE-ENTRY SUPPORT

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Disseminate information on CEYP Support to college students	Disseminate information to students enrolled at UWS who are studying in college and also those who will make the transition to UWS through SWAP Access Programmes or through the articulation process	CEYP who progress to degree programmes at UWS are provided with current, relevant and appropriate information on the support available	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	<p>The SWPDO and the College Transition Team attend the MCR Pathways events for those who mentor CEYP in Glasgow Schools.</p> <p>The WP Team disseminate relevant information on support for CEYP to pupils who participate on the FocusWest initiative 'Routes for All who are thinking of going to college.</p> <p>The College Transition Team work with UWS Associate Students in 8 partner colleges and provide the relevant information to those students who are care experienced.</p> <p>The SWPDO attends the SWAP HE Information Day and hosts Study Skills Days at 4 campuses in Scotland where information on the support available for care experienced students.</p>
Dedicated information on the support available for CEYP on the UWS Website; the MyDay Website and printed literature	Information on the support provided for CEYP is available in all relevant literature, leaflets, on the UWS website and the dedicated moodle website for new students	Easily accessible information on the support available for CEYP on the UWS website; the New Applicant website and all other publicity materials	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	<p>Information for CEYP is available at:  <a href="https://www.uws.ac.uk/university-life/student-support-wellbeing/supporting-you/">https://www.uws.ac.uk/university-life/student-support-wellbeing/supporting-you/</a> and also on the dedicated Moodle website for new applicants at:  <a href="http://myday.uws.ac.uk">http://myday.uws.ac.uk</a> </p>

## RAISING ASPIRATIONS, OUTREACH AND PRE-ENTRY SUPPORT

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Collaborate with other Corporate Parents to provide current and relevant information on the support available for care experienced students	Collaborate with other Corporate Parents to maintain and develop current and relevant information	The dissemination of current and relevant information for CEYP and those that support them in the community that is accessible	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	<p>The University Guidance for those with Experience of Care Leaflet was created and is maintained by Jane O'Rorke (UWS) and Dan Keenan (University of Glasgow) on behalf of the West of Scotland Care Leaver Forum and FocusWest and contains contacts for every Higher Education Institution in Scotland.</p> <p>UWS contributes to the 'Improving Social Mobility' which is disseminated online and in print and has information relating to CEYP. It can be found at: <a href="https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=26035&amp;p=0">https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=26035&amp;p=0</a></p> <p>UWS contributes to the MCR Pathways Handbook which is disseminated to CEYP in Glasgow schools and their mentors.</p> <p>UWS contributes to the Propel (now known as the Become Charity) which provides information for CEYP on all UK universities: at <a href="http://www.propel.org.uk">www.propel.org.uk</a></p>

## SUPPORT THROUGH THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Dissemination of information to CEYP applicants regarding relevant University services, transition activity, and the contact details for the SWPDO responsible for support	Continue to contact applicants who are CEYPs and provide relevant information on the support available at UWS in all communications with new students	CEYP will received information at the application stage instead of the offer stage of the application process	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	For previous sessions, the SWPDO contacted CEYP applicants after an offer of a place on a degree programme had been made to inform them of the support available at UWS including contact details for the named person. For Session 2018/19 a new system has been developed and CEYP who have self-disclosed on their UCAS application will be flagged electronically by UWS and information will be sent automatically initiating pre-entry support at this earlier stage of the application process.
Agree protocol for contacting Local Authorities (LAs) where appropriate and requested by CEYP entrants	Creation of protocol to be used in order to continue liaising with relevant staff in local authorities where appropriate where requested by CEYP entrants	Agreement of protocol by colleagues in Local Authorities such as Throughcare and Aftercare; Educational Services and Social Work in order to provide support in partnership with the SWPDO where appropriate	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	All contact with Local Authority colleagues is carried out with the specific agreement of the CEYP. Some LAs used encrypted communication and again with the agreement of the CEYP.

## SUPPORT THROUGH THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Liaise with and refer CEYP to colleagues within Student Services to offer information, guidance and advice on finance, additional support for learning	Maintain dialogue with relevant colleagues within UWS for referrals and provide opportunities for training and up to date information on current issues affecting CEYP	The process for referring CEYP is agreed between relevant colleagues and provides an easy and seamless process in which CEYP will be confident that their needs will be met	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	<p>The Funding &amp; Advice Team offer a range of support from a magazine to an online module to help students prepare before coming to university and have a dedicated web page to help students at: <a href="https://www.uws.ac.uk/money-fees-funding/money-debt-advice/">https://www.uws.ac.uk/money-fees-funding/money-debt-advice/</a></p> <p>Appointments to see specialist advisors from any of the support services are easily accessible through the Student Link and Hub.</p>
Offer of a UWS Buddy to help with the transition to University	The Offer of a UWS Buddy is given to all CEYP to help them settle into university life.	CEYP will take up the offer of a Buddy to help them with the transition to University	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	<p>A Buddy contacts their student initially through email before they arrive on campus. This friendly and supportive approach helps our new students to engage with student life.</p> <p>Information on the Buddy Programme and a contact email address to request a Buddy can be found at: <a href="https://www.uws.ac.uk/university-life/student-support-wellbeing/supporting-you/">https://www.uws.ac.uk/university-life/student-support-wellbeing/supporting-you/</a></p>

## CONTINUING SUPPORT

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Ongoing support from the SWPDO throughout studies and other relevant colleagues as and when required	The SWPDO will maintain contact at relevant times within the CEYP learner journey and also as needed in partnership with Student Enhancement Developers (SEDs); Education Guidance Advisors (EGAs) and Students Services	CEYP have a positive experience both pastorally and academically leading to an increase in progression and retention	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	Contact with CEYP is made by the SWPDO and other relevant colleagues to offer support at crucial times within the Academic Year where research has shown that students are most likely to drop-out. After the initial contact after offers are made, the SWPDO maintains contact to monitor progress and assess if the student need additional support. This is generally done at a few weeks after the start of the session, mid-session; before exams and after exams. Attendance monitoring also alerts the SWPDO and the SEDs and contact is made with the student to offer support when it is needed.
Ensure ease of access to Discretionary and Childcare Funds where relevant	CEYPs will continue to be ensured access to Discretionary and Childcare Funds where relevant	Decrease in the number of CEYP who withdraw because of financial hardship	'Be alert' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	Information on funding is disseminated at the applicant stage and support on finance is ongoing through initiatives such as Money Week; Drop-in Sessions and Information Sessions provided by the Funding & Advice Team.  CEYP are also invited to apply to the Robertson Trust which not only provides additional financial help but also through their dedicated training and mentoring programme help to maximise their potential at university and compete successfully for graduate level jobs.

## CONTINUING SUPPORT

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Ensure 52 week accommodation for CEYPs where requested	Ascertain the number of residential places that may be required as soon as possible	Accommodation Staff are advised as to the number of residential places that may be required for CEYP to endure a positive transition for CEYP to University Accommodation	'Be alert' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	UWS guarantees that care-experienced students can have access to University accommodation 365-days of the year and further information can be found at: <a href="https://www.uws.ac.uk/university-life/accommodation/">https://www.uws.ac.uk/university-life/accommodation/</a>  The number of CEYP accessing UWS accommodation has increased over the past 3 years.
Identify key staff for further information dissemination on each campus and where appropriate facilitate training workshops	Work with Senior Management; Schools and other relevant staff who have a support role at UWS to provide opportunities to raise awareness of the barriers faced by CEYP and the support available	Training is provided for all staff at all campuses regarding Corporate Parenting responsibilities to provide clarity on their role within the University to support CEYP	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	Information dissemination to Senior staff and colleagues within the University is ongoing and information sessions will be arranged in preparation for the new applicants annually.  Following on from previous training by Who Cares? Scotland, further training on Corporate Parenting is planned for Session 2017/18. In addition, staff at all campuses will have an opportunity to attend information Sessions by the SWPDO.

## MONITORING & EVALUATION

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Ensure CEYP applicants who identify themselves are monitored and supported from application stage through to graduation	The SWPDO will continue to provide pre-entry and ongoing support for all CEYP in partnership with relevant colleagues such as SEDs and EGAs internally and externally	An increase in progression and retention of CEYP and a positive learning experience	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	The introduction of Student Enhancement Developers has provided academic support for CEYP. Attendance Monitoring has created an early warning system to alert Schools that a student is perhaps having difficulties and contact is made to offer support. The SWPDO works closely with the SEDs.
Collect qualitative and quantitative data on CEYPs and facilitate communication between CEYPs and relevant agencies where appropriate	Collection of quantitative and qualitative information on CEYPs will be maintained and information will be disseminated as appropriate	Ongoing creation of annual and interim reports to inform and advise of current data and issues affecting CEYP	'Be alert' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	The creation of a new Dashboard website to provide easily accessible data on CEYP is now in place. Qualitative information is also collated from 1-1 meetings with CEYP and the creation of a CEYP Forum will provide a voice within UWS for this vulnerable group.

## MONITORING & EVALUATION

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Continue to work in collaboration with other Corporate Parents	Continue to work in collaboration and develop relationships with other Corporate Parents	Engagement with Corporate Parents around our Scottish Campuses	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	<p>The SWPDO has worked in partnership to host a number of initiatives with Who Cares? Scotland such as the Inaugural Lecture for National Care Leavers Week 2015; Cares Got Talent Show in 2016 and events for the future include a video production the Communities That Care Initiative in Renfrewshire; Social Work Students mentoring CEYP and we are hosting an event for National Volunteering Week in June.</p> <p>The SWPDOs have agreed to give a presentation to SDS staff and continue to work with colleagues from LAs around our campuses. In partnership with the Widening Access Development Officer of the University of Glasgow, the SWPDO helped to create the West of Scotland Care Leavers Forum which has representatives for colleges and University in West, Central and Southern Scotland. It also works in collaboration with Care Experienced and Carers East Forum (CECEF) to provide a national forum to discuss issues that affect CEYP and share good practice. The number of members has continued to increase over the past 3 years.</p> <p>The SWPDO works closely with colleagues in Throughcare; Aftercare and Social Work and there has been an increase in the requests for additional support.</p> <p>The SWPDO is a member of the Renfrewshire Champions Board and other relevant committees for Renfrewshire Council.</p>

## MONITORING & EVALUATION

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
				<p>UWS works in partnership with Glasgow City Council and the MCR Pathways initiative Glasgow's Got Talent by providing information on alternative routes to university information to both secondary pupils and their mentors (<a href="http://mcrpathways.org/">http://mcrpathways.org/</a>) and by support those pupils who are thinking of going to university pre-entry and throughout their studies</p> <p>UWS works in partnership with partner universities in secondary schools with low progression to higher education and do this through the FOCUSWest (<a href="http://www.focuswest.org.uk">www.focuswest.org.uk</a>) initiative 'Routes for All' which is part of a national initiative Schools for Higher Education Programme (SHEP) <a href="http://www.sfc.ac.uk/access-inclusion/access-priorities/low-progression-schools/low-progression-schools.aspx">http://www.sfc.ac.uk/access-inclusion/access-priorities/low-progression-schools/low-progression-schools.aspx</a></p> <p>The SWPDO attends meetings with the Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum (Staf) to disseminate relevant information to members so that they can provide CEYP with information on going to university and initiative 1-1 support.</p>

## MONITORING & EVALUATION

Objective	Action	Performance Measurement	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Progress
Continue to work in collaboration with Schools within UWS to provide activities and events for CEYP and to disseminate important information regarding issues that affect CEYP	The SWPDOs will liaise with all Schools within UWS to establish the range of initiatives and activities for CEYP	An increase in the range of activities offered by Schools within UWS	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	The SWPDOs have continued to present information on the work that they do regarding the Widening Access agenda including the support of CEYP. This has led to the initiation of collaborative working within the Schools of Media, Culture & Society where discussions have taken place about building on the current work taking place through Communities that Care Initiative and also the School of Engineering & Computing who are offering a STEM Summer School.
Continue to increase knowledge and feedback of the issues that affect care experienced students through Scottish Government; Scottish Funding Council; Universities Scotland and other relevant organisations	The SWPDO will continue to be aware of and feedback to relevant policies; reports and publications relating to care experienced students.	An increase in the knowledge and research into care experienced students and the dissemination to colleagues both internally and externally	'Be alert' 'Promote interest' 'Provide Opportunities' 'Help access' 'Collaborate' 'Assess needs' 'Improve'	The SWPDO and other relevant colleagues will be alert to new information on care experienced students and will also participate in and attend relevant seminars and conferences to gain new knowledge and disseminate good practice.

