



Corporate Parenting Pledges

The role of the Corporate Parent for Looked After Children is arguably the most important role of a Council. We have a legal and moral duty to provide the level of support, care and protection any good parent would give to their children. This includes promoting their health, education, social and emotional needs. The term 'Corporate Parent' recognises that meeting the diverse needs of these young people requires co-operation between Council service areas and other organisations, such as health, education, the police and partner agencies.

Corporate Parenting responsibilities fall to everyone across the council not just the Corporate Parenting Board. To support a stronger approach to corporate parenting, Welsh Government have aspirations to expand this duty across the wider public sector.

The Corporate Parenting Board take seriously the needs of those children and young people and the impact of any decisions that they (young people) and the council make. As Councillors we may have opportunities to do this through our Corporate Parenting Board or Cabinet roles, or as part of our Scrutiny responsibilities.

The Corporate Parenting Board worked with a group of young people to explore the area's most important to them, and to prioritise some actions to work on. It's the work that helped us shape the following pledge areas that the Corporate Parenting Board are signed up to deliver:

- No barriers to opportunity
- Good education/good job
- Healthy relationships
- Safe place to live
- Mental health
- Love, family, and friendship
- Happiness

Swansea
Corporate Parenting Board

'As corporate parents we have a collective responsibility to ensure that care experienced children, young people and care leavers can have the outcomes every good parent would want for their children.'

'WE PLEDGE TO...'



Work with children young people to ensure that they have equal access to opportunities

No Barriers to Opportunity

"I'm in care and I want to be able to do what a kid does out of the care system"



Provide all children and young people with access to a good education and job prospects

Good Education / Good Job

"Every child should be able to chase their dreams"



Model to young people what healthy relationships look like and help them achieve this in their own lives

Healthy Relationships

"How can I have a good relationship if I've never seen one"



Make sure all young people feel safe where they live

Safe Place to Live

"I just want to keep being safe"



Ensure mental health services are available to support young people as and when they need them

Mental Health

"Check in with me to see I'm ok"



Promote family time and life-long connected networks for children and young people

Love, Family and Friendship

"If you have a loving family and good friendships you will never feel lonely and will always have lots of support"



Focus on young people's happiness as well as their safety

Happiness

"No-one can be truly happy and a productive member of society if they are at risk or living in poverty"

On July 12th 2023 the pledges were agreed and endorsed by the corporate parenting board as a commitment to the care experienced children and young people in Swansea.

The pledges will be circulated amongst key forums and partners will be encouraged to support the board and our young people in turning these pledges into achievable actions for delivery. Lead officer and members will be expected to report on progress against these to future Corporate Parenting Board meetings.