

"I'd like an advent calendar at Christmas – this is what parents do for their kids"

"Support us more with housing...we can't just go back to parents if we muck up"

"My social worker helps to keep me safe"

Our Pledge to Children who are Looked After & Care Leavers

Our aim is for all our children and young people in West Sussex to be safe, resilient and realising their potential and aspirations.

This is our commitment to you:

- We will keep you safe
- We will listen to your views and opinions
- We will support you to achieve or exceed your goals and aspirations

About YOU

We'll do our best to return you to your own family if it is safe to do so.

If it is not possible for you to return to the care of your birth family, we'll explain why. If possible, we'll contact other members of your family, or close friends, to look at a safe place for you to live, to go to school and meet your friends.

If you can't live with your family, we'll find you alternative adoptive or long term foster carers, residential care, or children's home, to meet your needs.

We'll work really hard to enable you to keep in touch with your family and friends, as long as this is what you want and is in your best interest.

Your Education and Work

We will make sure you'll be helped to learn in a way appropriate for your age and ability.

We'll ensure you have a place in a school best able to meet your needs and will be supported into college or university, if this is what you want.

Depending on your age, we will make certain you have your own plan, which details everything you need, including your education. Your Personal Education Plan (PEP) will be completed with minimum disruption to school life, eg after-school PEP meetings.

We'll help support you to find employment/training when you leave education.

Professional support

We'll try to give you a consistent and named professional, who will make sure your wishes and feelings are known and considered in all aspects of your life.

We'll take account of and support your individual needs and culture.

You'll have your own individual health plan and be supported with any services you need for physical, mental health and wellbeing.

You'll have a Pathway Plan from 16, which will help you plan your future including where you are going to live, how to manage your money and reach your future goals.

You'll have support from a Personal Adviser from the age of 16 to 21, or up to 25 if you need it, who will help you work towards your independence as you leave care, including supporting you to find accommodation if you need us to.