



CORPORATE PARENTING DUTIES THE BASICS

A SHORT GUIDE

- **Understand** the issues that care experienced young people face and **assess** their needs.
- **Promote** the interests of care experienced young people and provide them with **opportunities**.
- **Collaborate** with other corporate parents and **improve** the way you work with care experienced young people.

UNDERSTAND AND ASSESS

These duties are all about listening to the voice of care experienced young people. You should have regular dialogue with young people so you can understand the issues they might be facing as individuals and as a group. You also need to assess their needs, as individuals but also as a group, and you'll need to show how you've changed to respond to these needs.

PROMOTE AND PROVIDE

These duties are all about taking pro-active steps to benefit the lives of care experienced young people. Part of this is about upholding their rights, widening access and tackling discrimination. Another part is about giving care experienced young people chances that will improve their wellbeing. Different corporate parents will meet this duty in different ways, but every corporate parent is an employer which means you have the power to offer work experience, training or employment. You also need to work to remove barriers that care experienced young people face; not just to the opportunities you offer, but to services and support more generally.

COLLABORATE AND IMPROVE

These duties are all about making corporate parenting a permanent part of your organisation's policy, practice and culture. They say it takes a village to raise a child and in a similar vein, as a corporate parent, you need to think about the way you work with other organisations. You're expected to collaborate with other corporate parents and look for ways to share information, coordinate activities and more. It's also important to remember that corporate parenting is not a process that comes to an end; you need to keep your work with care experienced young people under review and constantly look for ways to improve.

