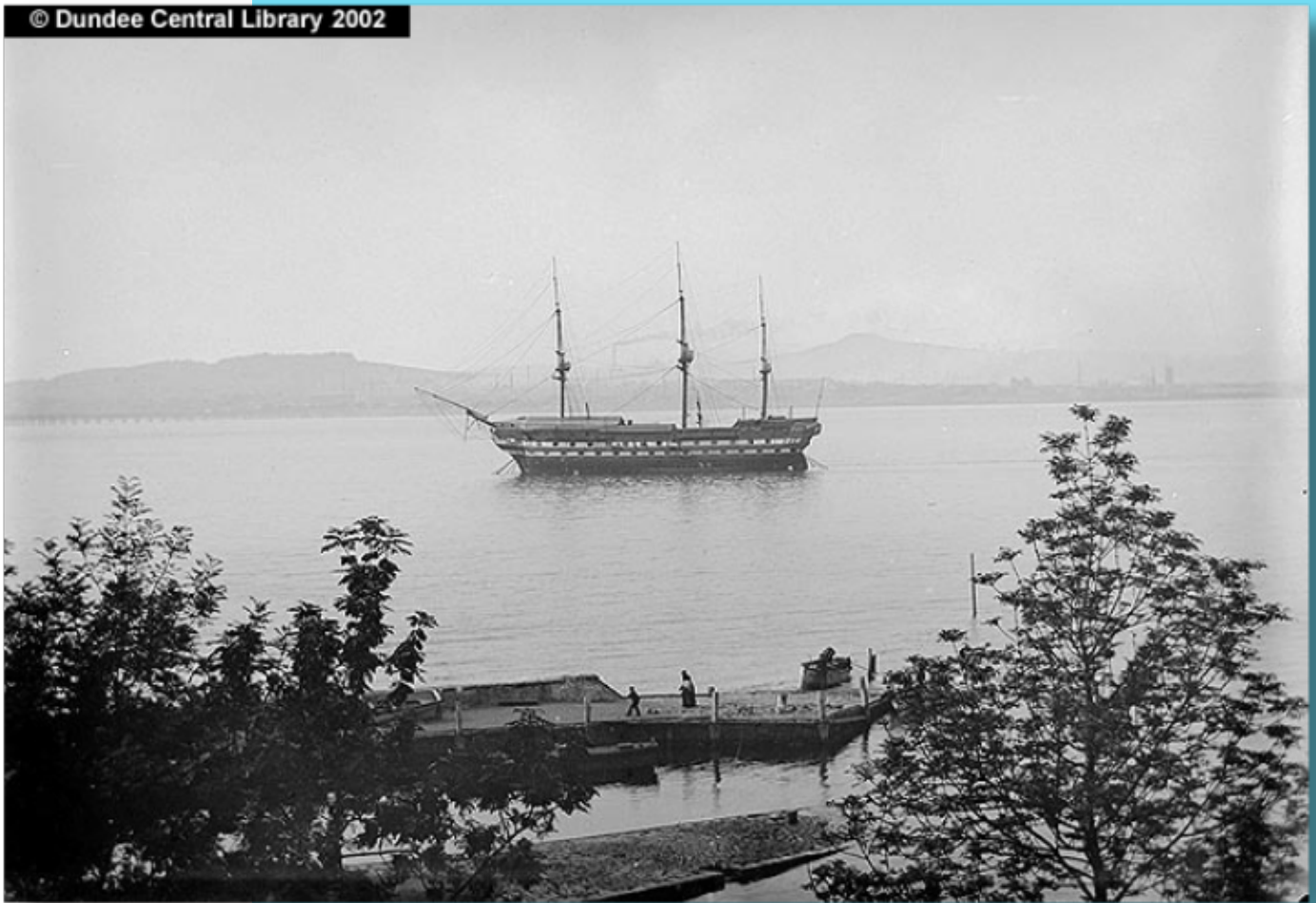


CARE EXPERIENCED HISTORY MONTH

TEACHER SUPPORT PACK

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CARE EXPERIENCED HISTORY MONTH (SCOTLAND)

PART 1: WHAT IS CARE EXPERIENCE

THESE DEFINITIONS ARE TO HELP GUIDE CONVERSATIONS ON WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CARE EXPERIENCED PERSON AND THE CARE SYSTEM.

DEFINITION

Throughout the UK, terminology and language has differences when discussing children and young people in care. We recommend using the term **Care Experienced** or **Care Experienced people** as it is an umbrella term used to describe anyone who is currently, or has been, in the state care system.

History:

The term stems from a community of people who grew up in care. It has been traced back to the 1980s in the Who Cares? Scotland magazine 'Speak Out' published by people living in care who sought a definition that they felt had ownership of and related to.

Legality:

The term has no statutory basis. However, it has been adopted by the Scottish Government and is implemented in Scottish policies and legislation.

OTHER TERMS TO BE AWARE OF:

Looked After

This is a term used throughout the United Kingdom. It is defined as "a child who has been in the care of their local authority for more than 24 hours is known as a looked after child... a child stops being looked after when they are adopted, return home or turn 18" (NSPCC, 2021).

Care Leaver

This is a term is used throughout the UK but in more recent times is used mainly in England. This refers to people who have left their care setting due to 'ageing out' of the system.

PART 1: WHAT IS CARE EXPERIENCE

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CARE

Foster

Where a child or young person is looked after away from home, in another household setting. Foster care can range from being a short-term placement that may last a day or so to a long-term placement that could last years. Foster parents are paid a salary for each foster child they have in their care. The legality may also vary due to different supervision or voluntary orders relating to the child's formal care placement.

Kinship

When a child or young person is cared for by their extended family or close friend this is referred to as kinship care. This can be determined by a supervision order both on a voluntary or mandatory basis. It also can be arranged privately within families. Consequently, people with experience of Kinship care aren't always aware that they can identify as Care Experienced.

Residential

A child or young person who is looked after away from home may live in residential care in a group setting, such as a residential home or school. These homes are often referred to as Children's homes, where children are care for by keyworkers and staff members.

Secure

Sometimes when a child or young person is looked after away from home they will be placed in a 'Secure unit'. This type of care restricts the freedom of the child or young person.

Looked After at Home

A child or young person can remain at home but can be under a supervision order or has an element of social work involvement in their lives. This is still considered to be an experience of care.

PART 1: WHAT IS CARE EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Adoption

This is a legal procedure in which the parental responsibility for a child or young person is transferred from their birth parent or another person with parental responsibility to their adopter.

There are challenges to those who are defined as being adopted. They may face barriers to accessing support similar to those with experience of other types of care.

It is also important to note that adoptees in some instances may have spent a period of time prior to their adoption in other care placements such as foster care.

In some instances, where adoption has broken down a child or young person can be placed back into the care system.

For these reasons, adoption is included in our definitions of care and we actively encourage teachers to offer similar support as provided to other Care Experienced people.

For a more detailed breakdown, visit -

www.education.gov.scot/media/gymf322m/childrenyoungpeopledefinitionsdoc.pdf



Photo credit: Libraries, Leisure & Culture Dundee

MANAGING CONVERSATIONS

THIS SECTION IS TO HELP GUIDE TEACHERS IN SUPPORTING CARE EXPERIENCED PEOPLE IN THEIR CLASSES WHO MAY WANT TO CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION AFTER THE LESSON.

How we talk about Care Experience matters. Sometimes we can unconsciously stigmatise Care Experienced people through the language we use and the framing of said language. By shifting our approach to thinking about what **all** children in Scotland need in order to develop, we can have a different conversation. In doing this, we bypass unintentionally 'othering' Care Experienced people by focusing on the support that **every** child needs to thrive. The Frameworks Institute in partnership with the Robertson's Trust has prepared the 'Each and Every Child: How to Talk About Care Experience in Scotland' report which people who support Care Experienced people in their everyday lives can use to understand how to speak about and support Care Experienced people. Referenced below, we would highly encourage you to read this document ahead of the lesson to know how to speak correctly about the topics raised and how to support Care Experienced people without stigmatising them in conversations that may come after. If a Care Experienced pupil wants to speak to someone directly about what they have learned, please get in touch with Who Cares? Scotland where appropriate. There is also an opportunity to be involved in local Champions Boards, should this be desired. Champions Boards' contact details can be found on local authority websites.

Reference: O'Neil, M., Pineau, M.G., & Hyatt, T. (2020). 'Each and every child: How to talk about care experience in Scotland'. Washington, DC: FrameWorks Institute.

ORGANISATION	CONTACT	WEBSITE
WHO CARES? SCOTLAND	0141 226 4441	WWW.WHOCARESSCOTLAND.ORG
LOCAL CHAMPIONS BOARDS	LOCAL CONTACT NUMBER APPLIES	HTTPS://WWW.WHOCARESSCOTLAND.ORG/WHAT-WE-DO/PARTICIPATION/
FRAMEWORKS INSTITUTE	INFO@FRAMEWORKSINSTITUTE.ORG	HTTPS://WWW.FRAMEWORKSINSTITUTE.ORG/

USEFUL INFORMATION

HERE YOU CAN FIND DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS OF CARE AND SUPPORT OFFERED TO PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE OF ARE THAT IS SPECIFIC TO EDUCATION.

WWW.UCAS.COM/PROVIDERS/GOOD-PRACTICE/EMERGING-COHORTS/CARE-EXPERIENCED-STUDENTS

WWW.SAAS.GOV.UK/FULL-TIME/SUPPORT-FOR-CARE-EXPERIENCED-STUDENTS

WWW.GOV.SCOT/POLICIES/LOOKED-AFTER-CHILDREN/CORPORATE-PARENTING/

WWW.CORPORATEPARENTING.ORG.UK/

WWW.WHOCARESSCOTLAND.ORG/WHAT-WE-DO/SUPPORT-TO-CORPORATE-PARENTS/

WWW.WHATWORKS-CSC.ORG.UK/RESEARCH-REPORT/CARE-EXPERIENCED-YOUNG-PEOPLE-AND-HIGHER-EDUCATION/

WWW.EDUCATION.GOV.SCOT/IMPROVEMENT/SCOTLAND-LEARNS/RESOURCES-FOR-PRACTITIONERS/SCOTTISH-ATTAINMENT-CHALLENGE-2020-21-EQUITY-IN-EDUCATION/FOCUS-ON-CARE-EXPERIENCED-CHILDREN-AND-YOUNG-PEOPLE/

WWW.LEAPSONLINE.ORG/SCHOOLSTUDENTS/BLOGS/SUPPORT-CARE-EXPERIENCED-STUDENTS

[HTTPS://REACH.SCOT/CARE-EXPERIENCED/VOICES-OF-PUPILS-IN-CARE/](https://reach.scot/care-experienced/voices-of-pupils-in-care/)

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