

Newsletter and Promising Practice Roundup for Corporate Parents

October 2022



**WHO
CARES?**
SCOTLAND



Meet the Team



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2022-2023

TRAINING AND
EDUCATION AT WHO
CARES? SCOTLAND

TRAINING OFFER PACK



**WHO
CARES?**
SCOTLAND

EQUALITY | RESPECT | LOVE

We have now published our training offer for 2022-23. Please get in touch if you would like to arrange some training for you and your team.

2022-2023

**TRAINING AND
EDUCATION AT WHO
CARES? SCOTLAND**

COLLABORATIVE TRAINING SESSIONS

Dates for the diary

Realising the UNCRC as Corporate Parents

Monday, 24th October, 2022

[Book Here](#)

Sex, Relationships and Reproductive Health

*Please note that the previously scheduled session on 31st October has been postponed to 14th February 2023

[Book Here](#)

Realising the UNCRC as Corporate Parents

Thursday, 3rd November, 2022

[Book Here](#)

Mental Health and Corporate Parenting

Thursday, 9th February, 2023

[Book Here](#)

Education, Learning and Corporate Parenting

Tuesday, 14th March, 2023

[Book Here](#)



EQUALITY | RESPECT | LOVE

Questions?

To find out more about these training sessions please email the Training and Education Team at Who Cares? Scotland: corporateparenting@whocaresScotland.org.

Covid Response Videos

We recently launched the first two videos in a series sharing some of the insights published in our Covid Response report. You can read the [full report here](#) and the [summary report here](#).

To view the videos please click on the images on the right.



Financial Impact



Information and Digital Access

Corporate Parenting Duties: An Overview

This document provides an easy-to-read overview of Corporate Parenting duties as laid out in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. It also sets out the wider policy and legislative landscape in which they exist. Our first version of this document was created in 2017, and this update reflects the significant change in the Scottish cultural and political context. You can read the guide [here](#) and find lots of other useful resources on our [learning hub](#).



In each newsletter we like to share some of the great work Corporate Parents and other organisations across Scotland are doing to help Care Experienced people. In this edition we are looking at the Care Experienced Student Bursary and the work between colleges and the HUB for Success (HfS) in reviewing and addressing how attendance numbers were being used (detrimentally) as criterion for payment the bursary.

This example has been shared with us by Lorraine Moore, a care experienced, qualified and registered social worker who set up the HUB for Success in 2018.

Our places of learning work - if they work for everyone

We know that our college communities are stronger if **each and every learner has what they need to thrive**. We also know that the number of Care Experienced young people continuing to leave school at 16 or before remains a stubborn and persistent statistic. Therefore, further education is an important route of learning not only for school leavers but for those returning at a later stage. Our colleges play a crucial role as adjacent parts of the wider scaffolding of care and are often instrumental in our learners' success. Colleges support students to gain qualifications at further education level as well providing opportunities to get into higher education.

So back in 2018 when our team heard the news that the Care Experienced student bursary (CESB) was to be extended to people in further education we celebrated the governments recognition and acknowledgement of the challenges faced by a specific group of people.

As the numbers of learners getting into college increased, so did demand for the HfS service. As we analysed the data, a clear theme emerged from student voice: that the **payment of the bursary was linked to an attendance policy which required 100% attendance**, or at least, that attendance was linked to the payment of the bursary in a way that was not intended in the SFC bursary guidance. Students were reporting, in increasing numbers, that because of a missed class, a missed day or more their bursary was not being paid. Students were **distressed, upset, bewildered, overwhelmed, frustrated, tearful, angry and at times confused**.

Promising Practice



Lifeline of support

Not only was this policy approach worrying it also created a wave of pressure on other services as students reached out for financial and emotional support through other networks; throughcare and aftercare teams, social work teams, welfare teams, the HfS, college lecturers, kinship carers, foster carers, student support services, student finance teams and more. **Was this the intention and spirit behind the introduction of the bursary?** When students are struggling to keep afloat, they often have to ask for help multiple times before the getting the right support, leading to re-traumatisation, distraction from study and time away from learning.

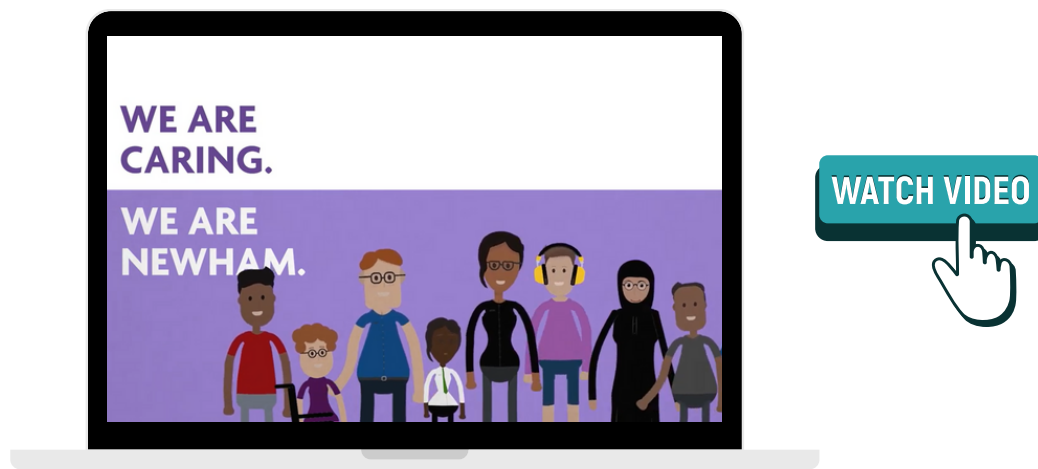
Spotlight on Good Practice

The Hub for Success reached out to college partners, sharing the data (voice), taking a re-framing approach; what could be achieved if this was looked at differently and could we be better Corporate Parents by listening to voice as is encouraged by The Promise? Our college partners showed a **real and serious commitment** to taking the learners views seriously and to **reviewing their policy and practice - they committed to exploring a different way of working.** It was agreed that the students had provided a mandate for change and as good parents (corporate) surely it was our duty to listen? What resulted was **a policy that leant towards the student's needs**, one which was built on a foundation of trust, of taking a relationship based and trauma informed approach to attendance. A policy based on engagement as opposed to one based on a punitive approach which saw the removal of income.

Voice and Keeping the Promise

Voice, and the work of HfS helped to identify and evidence issues which affected individual students. By listening, taking views seriously and working in partnership, we were able to help students on an individual basis, but we were also able to address the structural and systemic barriers getting in the way of our learner's progress. By working collaboratively with colleges and learners' views as central to the mandate for change, together we were able to achieve much wider systemic change, which, if implemented well, has potential to reach a much wider group of people.

Newham's Corporate Parenting Video



Newham, a borough of London, have recently released a beautiful animated video sharing the voices of their young people and the promises they are making to them in their Corporate Parenting strategy. While Corporate Parenting is a concept in England, only local authorities are named Corporate Parents and there are no statutory duties laid out. It's very interesting in that case to see such a positive example, such as this, coming from an English local authority.

'Here at Newham our children, young people and families are at the heart of everything that we do. Our Corporate Parenting Strategy explains in more detail the commitments we make to our Children in Care and Care Leavers, their families and those who work with them during their time in our care and along their journey to adulthood. To read our full [Corporate Parenting Strategy 2022-2023](#), please click [here](#).'

Young Scot #YSAttain



Recently, we have been working closely with Young Scot who have recognised they are well placed to support the Care Experienced community through their work. So despite not being named as a Corporate Parent they commissioned Who Cares? Scotland to deliver training and create some resources so they could introduce some of the Corporate Parenting duties into their work.

In July this year Young Scot received funding for another four years of work from the Scottish Attainment Challenge. Young Scot are offering partners an updated package of support in this next phase of [#YSAttain](#). This includes rewards provided by Young Scot that can be given to young people in your area and support to develop brand new Young Scot discounts locally. Young Scot have also created a [toolkit](#) that partners can use to create and deliver smart entitlements in a non stigmatising way in their local area.

Care Experienced Week

It's Care Experienced week soon, here are two of the key events happening. Please promote these events to the Care Experienced people you work with. We'd also love to see our Corporate Parents showing their support at these events, you can find the [Briefing Pack for Corporate Parents here](#).



The Love Rally is back after two years! Who Cares? Scotland invites all Corporate Parents to march with us from Glasgow Green to George Square to show our commitment to achieving a lifetime of love for Care Experienced people across Scotland. Click the image to learn more!



The Time to Shine festival is also returning after an absence of two years. This years theme is Outer Space and we will have an out of this world DJ as well as food stalls, arts and crafts and much more! Please share this event with your network and consider how you could help Care Experienced people attend. Click the image for more info.

Who Cares? Scotland's Collaborative Corporate Parenting Network

Are you a Proud Corporate Parent? Do you want an opportunity to shout about the work you're doing for Care Experienced people, while learning what others outside of your own sector are doing?

We're looking for Corporate Parents who are passionate, driven and excited about Corporate Parenting to connect with other like-minded individuals based not on locality or sector, but a desire to make a difference for the Care Experienced community.

CORPORATE PARENTS TOLD US they wanted more opportunities to collaborate and ways to keep Corporate Parenting on the agenda.

CORPORATE PARENTS WANTED real, tangible examples of positive Corporate Parenting from other organisations which they can learn from/adapt for their own teams.

INTRODUCING The Who Cares? Scotland Collaborative Corporate Parenting Network: a space for Corporate Parenting pioneers to come together and collaborate and share Corporate Parenting plans and ambitions in an informal, exploratory way.

Together we can improve the lives of those with care experience. We look forward to hearing from you!

Email: corporateparenting@whocaresscotland.org



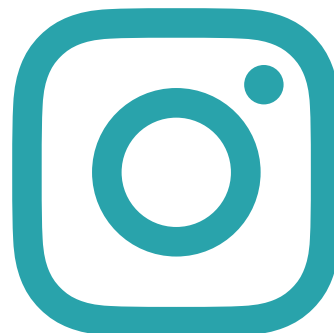
Get in Touch 



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If you would like to work with us or find out more about our training offer please do get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

corporateparenting@whocaresScotland.org



Click above for our socials