



**WHO
CARES?**
SCOTLAND

EQUALITY | RESPECT | LOVE

Newsletter and Promising Practice

**Summer/Autumn
2023**

The Education and Engagement Team

Team Updates

Warm Welcomes



[Lynsey Emery - Education and Engagement Manager \(Maternity Cover\)](#)



[Email Me](#)

Lynsey has a background in psychology and previous experience working in residential childcare and within education settings. Lynsey joined Who Cares? Scotland in 2016 and previously led on the development and evolution of the organisation's whole-school approach. This involved designing the training and support offered to whole-school communities, and delivering training inputs to Corporate Parents in Renfrewshire as part of our Communities that Care programme.



[Dionne Harty - Education and Engagement Officer](#)



[Email Me](#)

Dionne has a background in sociology, and has previously worked within the education sector. Dionne's last role was with Action for Children's STAY Mentoring Service, based within City of Glasgow College. She primarily mentored Care Experienced students to help them sustain at college, and also supported young people to transition from school to college. Prior to this, Dionne undertook teacher training to become a Modern Studies teacher, and has previously volunteered with MCR Pathways.

Fond Farewell



We have recently said goodbye to Katie Svanadze who moved to Australia a few months ago. Katie brought an incredible amount of passion and knowledge to our team, our work and the whole organisation. We will miss her. If Katie was your main contact, please do connect with our new manager, Lynsey, to reestablish contact.

Message from Chloe

As many of you will be aware, I am shortly about to begin maternity leave and therefore I'm delighted to introduce Lynsey Emery to you all. Lynsey has taken up the Education and Engagement Manager maternity cover post and has been getting to grips with all things Corporate Parenting over the past few weeks. Please do connect with Lynsey if you're keen to receive any support from the Education and Engagement team as you progress on your Corporate Parenting journey and seek to embed the recommendations from The Promise. I'll see you all around October 2024!



[Chloe Dobson - Education and Engagement Manager](#)

Our Team



[Emma Brannigan McQueen - Education and Engagement Officer](#)



[Jennifer Flynn - Digital Education and Engagement Officer](#)

New Resources

We have added some new video resources to our website. We spoke to members of our 2022 National Representative Body and asked them how Corporate Parents can help Care Experienced people when it comes to important areas of their lives. Click the images to see the new videos.



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 hear from [sportscotland](#).

In March 2020, we commissioned independent research to grow our understanding of inequalities in sport and to identify recommendations to progress improvement. We were aware that Care Experienced young people face additional barriers to participation in sport but recognised a gap in our evidence. We therefore asked researchers to include Care Experienced young people within the scope of the project and to survey the Scottish sporting workforce on their understanding of care experience and sport.

This information has been an invaluable addition to our evidence base. We have used it to inform our equality impact assessments, create a learning note and inform training for the sport sector, specific to care experience, and to update our newly designed equality, diversity and inclusion toolbox. It has also helped inform how we work with our partners.

In February 2021, we provided funding to create a new post of Active Schools and Communities Partnership Officer (ASCPO) within the North Ayrshire Active Schools Team. The work undertaken by the post complements existing sport and leisure provision locally but is geographically and thematically targeted.



A key role of the ASCPO has been to work with the young people and families supported by the care system, as well as other Corporate Parents, to identify, understand and remove the barriers for them to take part in sport and physical activity. This has included an inclusive residential experience at our national sports training centre in Inverclyde.

Over time, the young people and their families have built a trusted relationship with the ASCPO and the wider Active Schools team. Importantly, Care Experienced young people have helped to co-design sport and physical activity programmes that meet their needs and have sometimes gone one step further and co-delivered sport sessions. This approach has been a huge success and has supported the development of important leadership qualities for the young people.

We have been very privileged to have a Care Experienced young person join our Young People's Sport Panel from 2020-22. Over the last two years they shared their experiences and views both internally and with partners across the system to influence the future of sport. They also presented to our **sportscotland** Board, sharing their experiences and benefits of taking part in sport, as well as some of the barriers they have faced. We are incredibly fortunate to have their input and guidance in the development and consultation of our new Corporate Parenting Plan.

sportscotland
the national agency for sport

spòrsalba
am prìomh bhuidheann
nàiseanta airson spòrs

"As the national agency for sport and a committed Corporate Parent, we are proud to work in partnership with North Ayrshire Council to fund the creation of a new Active Schools & Communities Partnership Officer (ASCPO) position.

The impact of this work is immeasurable. Through supporting, mentoring and positively engaging the young people, we now have insight into what is needed to better support them to take part in sport and experience the benefits such as improved physical and mental wellbeing. The work has positively influenced policy and practice locally and is also providing notable learning that supports our vision for an active Scotland where everyone benefits from sport.

The Director of Education and Active Schools team have acknowledged and really value the importance of relationships. Putting people first and taking time to understand the individual needs of the young people and their families has been the key ingredient for success. "

Jane Leavey, Partnership Manager

Further reading:

- [Corporate Parenting](#)
- [Equality and Sport Research 2020 \(sportscotland.org.uk\)](#)
- [2020 Equality in Sport research](#)
- [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: Toolbox](#)
- [North Ayrshire Residential groups - YouTube](#)
- [Coach education subsidy funding](#)
- [The Young People's Sport Panel](#)

We are currently developing our new 2023-26 Corporate Parenting plan in consultation with Care Experienced young people. We hope to share our draft plan for wider feedback later this year.



Collaborative Learning Events 2023 - 24

Our collaborative learning events are useful ways to connect with other Corporate Parents and share practice and learning. An important duty of a Corporate Parent is to **collaborate** with other Corporate Parents to ensure support is provided to Care Experienced people.

Utilising our advocacy evidence, gathered from across Scotland and from Care Experienced people of all ages, we are able to design and deliver thematic and collaborative learning events for Corporate Parents. These sessions are open to anyone working within a Corporate Parenting body and you are welcome to join more than one session.

Each of these learning events is offered twice, on different dates and presented live on MS Teams. The content remains the same.

Moving Around



26th Oct
10.00 - 12.30

SIGN UP

Care Experienced people often have to move from home to home, without much choice about where they live - with many Care Experienced people communicating their wish to stay where they are. Join Who Cares? Scotland as we explore what Care Experienced people say about the impact of moving around and consider how we can support and ease transitions.

31st Oct
14.00 - 16.30

SIGN UP



Live on MS Teams

Education & Training



23rd Jan
17.00 - 19.30

SIGN UP

Join Who Cares? Scotland for an online collaborative training event for Corporate Parents across Scotland where we will share some of the insights gained from our Care Experienced members about their experiences of education and training, and how Corporate Parents can best support them.

1st Feb
10.00 - 12.30

SIGN UP



Live on MS Teams

Care Experienced Week 22nd to 29th October 2023

The theme of Care Experienced Week 2023 is **lifelong rights** and we have prepared a briefing pack for Corporate Parents to support your involvement:

Care Experienced Week 2023:
briefing_pack for Corporate Parents

CLICK





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A Human Rights Bill for Scotland

Response to the Scottish Government's public consultation

October 2023

www.whocaresscotland.org

A Human Rights Bill for Scotland

Last week Who Cares? Scotland published its response to the Scottish Human Rights Bill consultation. Within our response we call for:

- 1. An equality provision which explicitly names and protects Care Experienced people.**
- 2. A Human Rights Scheme which ensures independent advocacy for people whose rights are most at risk, specifying Care Experienced people.**

You can read our full response here: [A Human Rights Bill for Scotland - response to the Scottish Government's public consultation](#). We are aware that many of you will be submitting your own responses by the deadline of 5 October and do encourage, where possible, that you reiterate our asks in relation to Care Experienced people.





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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.



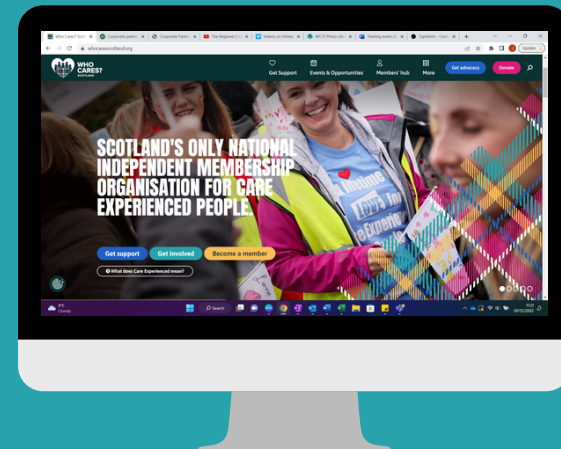
corporateparenting@whocaresscotland.org



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