

Newsletter and Promising Practice



The Education and Engagement Team

2025 - 2026

Issue Three

The Education and Engagement Team @ Who Cares? Scotland



The Education and Engagement team at Who Cares? Scotland is funded by Scottish Government to support Corporate Parents across Scotland. The offer includes:

- Live, bespoke training sessions to learn about care, Care Experienced people and Corporate Parenting legislation
- Support to create and develop Corporate Parenting Plans
- Digital learning materials and e-learning modules
- Spaces to work in collaboration with other Corporate Parents

If you would like to find out more about the support we offer please get in touch.



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Summer Festival 2025

On the 6th of August we descended on C7 Conference centre with glitter, tunes and approximately 1 million leis ready for our **Who Cares? Scotland Summer Festival**.

We welcomed nearly 300 Care Experienced people and their families to celebrate with us. The conference centre was split up into different 'festivals', we had **GlastonBUDDY**, **B in the Park** and **Buddydrum** in honour of our mascot Buddy. The day was a mixture of fun, food and tunes!

We were well fed, with curry, hotdogs, pizza and ice cream. There was a face painter and glitter artist on hand to get everyone ready for their moment to shine in the photobooth.

So much fun was had across the day with the various activities that were available from inflatables in the B in the Park festival to football at Buddydrum and the mini zoo where people met a snake, a tarantula, a mouse and many other wonderful creatures.

Thank you also to Natalie Don-Innes MSP who joined us for the day along with her daughter.

The event was huge success with happy smiles on faces all day long and happy memories being made. Thanks to all who attended and to our staff, volunteers and vendors who worked so hard planning, preparing and hosting the day.



Our newest resources

Collaborating as Corporate Parents - Guidance document and Video



We have just published some **new resources** on our Resource Library including two guidance documents and a video.

Collaborating as Corporate Parents:

This guide will help you collaborate and build strong working relationships with other Corporate Parents. The guide explains the duty to collaborate and breaks down the Scottish Government Statutory Guidance. We hope it will help you connect with other Corporate Parents on this exciting journey.

We created an accompanying video featuring some Corporate Parents discussing the importance of collaboration.

The Scaffold of Support - What could it look like in your organisation?

We have also created an interactive guide to help you understand and explore the Scaffold of Support. We have included templates for you to map out what the scaffold within your organisation could look like.

Click on the images to view the new resources and video.

Promising Practice



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



Edinburgh Cares, part of the Widening Participation Team at the University of Edinburgh, has been running the Edinburgh Fringe Days Out initiative for the last few years. This year, we distributed £605 in Fringe vouchers – 17 physical and 10 digital – along with transport passes, ensuring students can immerse themselves in the arts without financial stress. This initiative fosters cultural exploration and strengthens community ties, providing vital support and connection for students who may feel isolated during the summer break. We are grateful to our partners at the Fringe for providing the vouchers. Over the years we have distributed £1700 worth of tickets.

The Edinburgh Fringe Days Out initiative is part of our wider Community Hub that runs throughout the year. By participating in a variety of cultural and social experiences, our students gain a greater sense of belonging and get to enjoy the vibrant festivities offered in Edinburgh throughout the year. Students get to participate in group activities throughout the year such as monthly cake and coffee mornings, trips to the beach and botanic gardens and solo activities such as climbing and bouldering.

Care Experienced Week 2025

Care Experienced Week 2025 will take place from **Saturday 25th October to Saturday 1st November** and the theme this year is **rights**.

If you'd like to support us during Care Experienced Week, please look at our Action on Advocacy campaign which is calling for advocacy to be available to all Care Experienced people whenever they need it. You can find out more here - [Action on Advocacy](#).

This year we are unable to run our Love Rally, but our colleagues at Poverty Alliance have asked us to support their rally, Scotland Demands Better, which will take place on Saturday 25th October. You can find out more about this here: [March – Scotland Demands Better](#)

Organisations across the sector will be getting together to show solidarity with one another and demand better support for people facing poverty across Scotland. We're keen to take a block at this rally, hoisting up our Who Cares? Scotland banners and speaking up for our members in this space.

Please let us know if you are planning any events for Care Experienced Week, we'd love to hear about what you have planned! And remember, you can support us in many ways, volunteering your time, making a donation, our sponsoring our work.



Education and Engagement Support for Corporate Parents

We are delighted to present our offer of Support for Corporate Parents for 2025 – 2026. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you would like to discuss any of the support available.

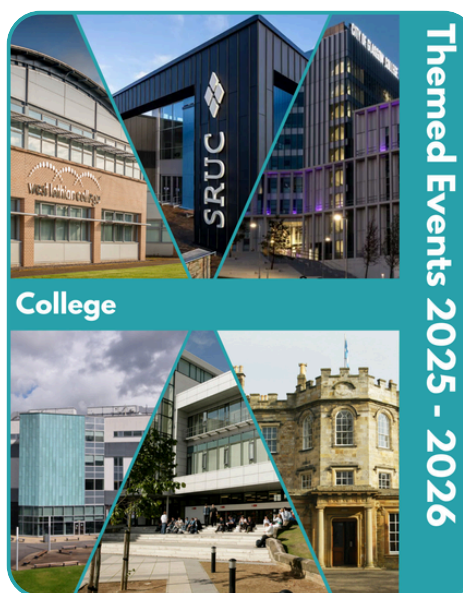
Please click the image below to view our Offer or Support:



Themed Collaborative Events

There will be two **collaborative learning sessions** this year – one focused on **college**, and one focused on **university**. In these sessions, the Education and Engagement team will explore key advocacy issues that the Care Experienced community can face in tertiary education. These sessions will help you to gain a better understanding of the barriers Care Experienced students encounter while studying at college and university, and inspire you on your journey as a supportive Corporate Parent.

Click the images below to reserve your place:



Wednesday 11th February 2026



Tuesday 24th February 2026

Action on Advocacy Campaign

We are campaigning to ensure that every Care Experienced person in Scotland can access independent, relationship-based, advocacy throughout their life.

What is independent advocacy?

Independent advocacy ensures Care Experienced people know their rights and can make informed choices about their lives.

Whether it's helping a young person reunite with their brother or sister, signposting Care Experienced adults to critical housing support, or accompanying a young person to their Children's Hearing, **independent advocacy is a vital and valuable service for all Care Experienced people who need it.**

Why now?

Five years after the Promise, Care Experienced people still struggle to access independent advocacy when they need it most.

This right remains unfulfilled, with inconsistencies in provision across Scotland. **With the upcoming Promise Bill this year, we have the opportunity to change this and make this a statutory right.**

How can you get involved?

Issue a statement of support – If your organisation would like to back the campaign, get in touch [here!](#)

Visit the [Action on Advocacy](#) campaign website for:

- Downloadable social media graphics to help spread the word.
- An email template to contact your MSPs.
- Advocacy in Action comic strips—real-life case studies showing the impact of independent advocacy.

Read our stories in the [Advocacy in Action](#) series!

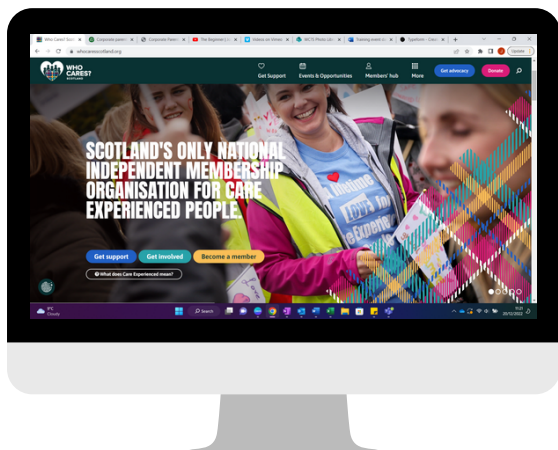


Get in Touch

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 to visit our website.



ARE YOU CARE EXPERIENCED OR SUPPORTING SOMEONE WHO IS ?



Have you heard about our Helpline?

The term "**Care Experienced**" refers to anyone who is currently in care or has been for any length of time regardless of their age. This care may have been provided in many different settings, such as:

- **Kinship Care:** Living with a relative who is not your mum or dad
- **Looked After At Home:** With the help of social work
- **Residential Care:** Living in a residential home or school
- **Foster Care:** Living with foster carers
- **Secure Care:** Living in a secure accommodation
- **Adoption:** Living with adoptive parents



Our Helpline is for Care Experienced people and those supporting them. We offer connection, a listening ear, lifelong advocacy, support and signposting around these issues:

Finances . Benefits . Housing . Health . Employment . Education . Rights.



0330 107 7540



help@whocaresscotland.org

Open 12 noon to 4pm Monday to Friday