

NEWSLETTER AND PROMISING PRACTICE

The Education and Engagement Team

2026 - 2027

Issue Two



EQUALITY | RESPECT | LOVE

SUPPORT FROM THE EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT TEAM

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**
- Spaces to **work in collaboration** with other Corporate Parents

We are here to help you on your journey to become a caring and supportive Corporate Parent to the Care Experienced community around you. All our training sessions and digital content are fully-informed by the voice of Care Experienced people – children, young people and adults who have lived experience of care.

We are delighted to present our offer of Support for Corporate Parents for 2026 – 2027. Our team has changed slightly this year. Management support is now provided by Donna, while Emma, Dionne and Jen continue to support you as before.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to discuss any of the support available.

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



CARE EXPERIENCED WEEK 2026

This year's **Care Experienced Week** is taking place from 26th October to 1st November. The first Care Experienced Week was held in October 2018. It was launched and initially celebrated by Who Cares? Scotland and is now celebrated globally.

This year's theme is '**Forward to the Future**' as we want to celebrate all of Scotland's Care Experienced community, where they are now and what they are looking forward to in the future. We are asking everyone to look ahead, encouraging organisations and Corporate Parents to demonstrate how they are contributing to creating these futures for Care Experienced people.

There are many ways you can get involved:

- Share on social media
- Simply cut and paste the social media captions from our comms pack* to engage with this theme.
- Get in touch with us
- If you or your organisation would like to get more involved with this theme and feature in our social media content, you can get in touch with us comms@whocaresscotland.org.

Thank you for celebrating Scotland's Care Experienced community with us. If you have any questions about the comms or the theme, or if you haven't received the comms guide, please do get in touch.

* We have sent a copy of our comms pack to everyone in our mailing list.



Who Cares 2 Party?

On Saturday 25th July, in Glasgow, we welcomed 200 Who Cares? Scotland members and their guests to this year's **Summer Festival 2026: Who Cares 2 Party?**

Held once again at C7 Conference Centre we welcomed members and their friends and family for a day of fun and memory making.

This year, the mini zoo included: a snake, a tarantula, a huge fluffy rabbit and, for the first time, a beautiful, very 'quacky' duck. Our members had a fabulous time meeting all the wonderful critters and it was a highlight of the day for many.

Outside, where thankfully the weather held out, we had our food vans serving a selection of burgers and curries, and there was the Mister Whippy van for some dessert after.

There was a collection of vintage police cars and a fire appliance providing some pretty cool photo opportunities for everyone!

Back inside, you could get your face painted before jumping on stage for a bit of karaoke. The stage was busy all day!

Hats off to all our wonderful staff and volunteers for pulling off another successful Who Cares? Scotland event!





VOICES FROM CARE CYMRU VISIT WHO CARES? SCOTLAND



The Education and Engagement team recently hosted staff and members of the Welsh charity for care experience, [Voices from Care Cymru](#), on a visit to our National Office in Glasgow. They travelled up from Wales on the Friday and spent the day learning all about Who Cares? Scotland, our work and our members.

We had staff from our Policy and Public Affairs, Evidence and Impact, Communities that Care, Helpline, Membership and Participation and South West Advocacy teams speaking about their roles and the work they do to support Care Experienced people and influence change in policy, legislation and public opinion.



After we had some lunch we all boarded the Glasgow open top tour bus to see the sights. Some of us locals even learned a thing or two about Glasgow! We stopped off at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum for a drop of culture before parting ways for the evening.

The group joined us again the next day to enjoy the fun at our Summer Festival! Two of the lads won our Lindsay's pirate treasure hunt, winning a real treasure chest full of sweets and treats. The group then boarded their mini bus for the journey back to Wales.



Voices from Care Cymru are the national charity for Care Experienced children and young people in Wales. Founded on the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, they ensure that those with direct experience of the care system lead the conversation about their own futures.

PROMISING PRACTICE SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY & POLICE SCOTLAND

Scottish Police Authority Forensic Services and Police Scotland's Policing Together National Children and Young People team, have fully embedded annual three-day interactive crime investigation events with children residing in Scotland's four secure and residential children's homes.

As part of both organisations' commitment to Corporate Parenting, successful engagement events have been held at four children's residential homes:

- The Good Shepherd Centre
- Rossie Young People's Trust
- The Kibble Education & Care Centre
- St. Mary's Kenmure

The sessions are designed to engage the children in practical, fun, and interactive ways to **build positive relationships**, while learning about the processes and procedures that both police and forensic experts go through when investigating a crime.

Over the course of six sessions, across three days, participants engage with and act as Police Officers, and experts from various specialisms of Forensic Services, including: Search and Recovery Scenes, Fingerprints, Chemistry and Documents, DNA, and Drugs. They identify, recover, and analyse both traditional police investigation techniques, and forensic evidence.





PROMISING PRACTICE - SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY

The scenario starts with a mock crime scene, where the resident's in-house café or salon has been broken into, and a three-figure sum of cash stolen. Participants in the events work through initial Police investigative steps prior to identifying and recovering various types of forensic evidence including fingerprints, DNA samples and drugs.

These are then 'examined' resulting in fingerprint comparisons, DNA interpretation, and drugs identifications. This supports the Police investigation and leads to the identification, 'arrest' and questioning of a named suspect.

The sessions also explore potential court outcomes, impact on victims, witnesses and perpetrators, as well as links to serious organised crime and exploitation.



This 'crime scene to court' approach allows participants to experience the different stages of an investigation from both a Police and Forensic Services perspective. Through practical, hands-on activities, children in residential and secure care can develop problem solving, decision making, communication and teamwork skills whilst gaining insight into a range of career pathways and building confidence through positive interactions with police officers and forensic specialists.

The feedback received from each event has been positively overwhelming, with a **lasting impression provided to those who need it most.**

Forensic Services plans to continue to support these activities enhancing their Corporate Parenting journey.

SAAS OPPORTUNITY - CARE EXPERIENCED STUDENT FUNDING TALKS



Funding Talks

SAAS will be delivering a funding talk, online, which is designed specifically for prospective higher education students who are Care Experienced. This session will be held on 8 October 2026 via MS Teams. Attendees are not required to have a MS Teams account to join. Attendees can book their free ticket here [Order your ticket! - Care Experienced Students - National Funding Talks - Microsoft Teams](#)

The interactive workshop will:

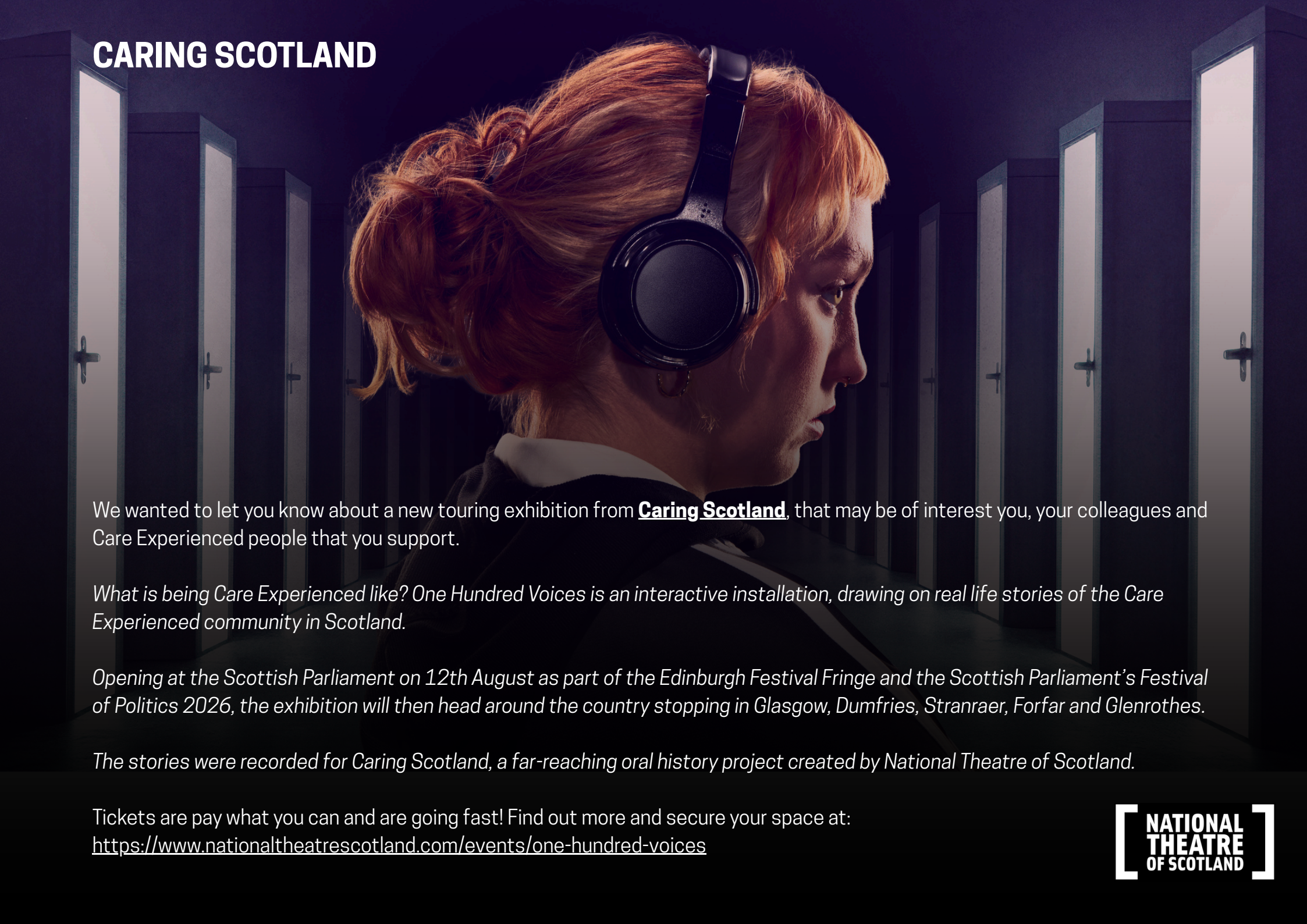
- explain the funding available from SAAS for those planning to undertake higher education courses (HNC/HND/Degree courses)
- provide information on the repayment of student loans
- provide direct access to a funding awareness advisor who can assist with specific or general queries you may have regarding SAAS

Bespoke events/application workshops

If your organisation would like a bespoke Funding Talk, Online Application Workshop or would like SAAS to participate in an event you are running please email our Funding Awareness team at SAASevents@gov.scot.

Thank you in advance for your continued support, and if you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact us at SAASevents@gov.scot

CARING SCOTLAND

A woman with red hair tied in a bun is shown in profile, looking down. She is wearing large, black, over-ear headphones. She is in a hallway with several open doors on both sides, creating a sense of depth. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

We wanted to let you know about a new touring exhibition from **Caring Scotland**, that may be of interest you, your colleagues and Care Experienced people that you support.

What is being Care Experienced like? One Hundred Voices is an interactive installation, drawing on real life stories of the Care Experienced community in Scotland.

Opening at the Scottish Parliament on 12th August as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Scottish Parliament's Festival of Politics 2026, the exhibition will then head around the country stopping in Glasgow, Dumfries, Stranraer, Forfar and Glenrothes.

The stories were recorded for Caring Scotland, a far-reaching oral history project created by National Theatre of Scotland.

Tickets are pay what you can and are going fast! Find out more and secure your space at:
<https://www.nationaltheatrescotland.com/events/one-hundred-voices>

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



Emma Brannigan - McQueen
Education and Engagement
Coordinator



[Email Me](#)



Dionne Harty
Education and Engagement
Officer



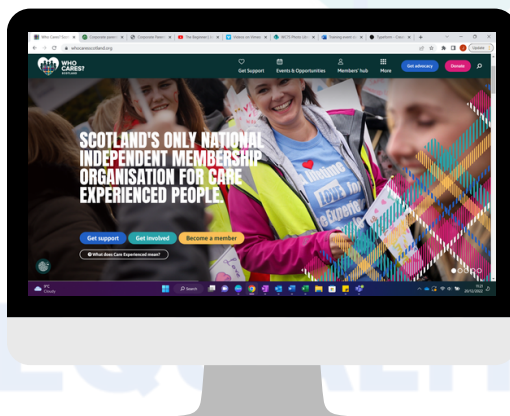
[Email Me](#)



Jennifer Flynn
Digital Education and Engagement
Officer



[Email Me](#)



Please visit our [website](#) where you can find useful documents and videos on our Resource Library. You can also keep up with all of our influencing work and member events through our social media accounts.



ARE YOU CARE EXPERIENCED OR SUPPORTING SOMEONE WHO IS?

Have you heard about our Helpline?



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