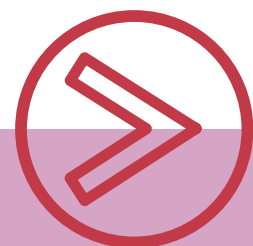


A newsletter for all young people in care in Medway brought to you by
Medway's Children & Young People Council



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hello



Hello everybody! It's the MCYPC Crew here bringing you the latest news!

It has been a really challenging time across the world. The pandemic has had a huge impact on young people's lives. We are so pleased that all activities, youth hubs and MCYPC have been back up and running again and all young people have enjoyed a Summer full of activities and MCYPC events and now getting into the Christmas spirit.. keep reading to find out more :)

mcy pc@ylf.org.uk



Sophie | Participation Apprentice



Want to join or share a story?

If you want to be part of the MCYPC then drop us a line - it is a great experience and you can join us in making a BIG difference! Don't forget you can also get in contact with us to share your stories...

YOU could be featured in the next newsletter!



LEGENDS YOUTH PROGRAMME



LUCY

MEDWAY YOUTH GROUPS

- An engaging and vibrant activity programme for young people in care aged 7-17 years! Activities are chosen by our young people and range from cooking and money management to kayaking, climbing, theme parks and much more! We meet at various times and locations across Kent & Medway throughout the year.
- Want to join us?** Contact us directly to get involved or anyone known to you can contact us on your behalf, including Carers, Professionals and Teachers.
- To get involved contact our Legends Team: legends@yjf.org.uk or the Legends Manager: **07841 014701**

MEDWAY CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE COUNCIL (MCYPC)



ELLIE



SOPHIE

MCYPC

- What is the MCYPC?** MCYPC stands for Medway young people in care council and supports children and care leavers up to 25 years old. We are here to help you to have your voice heard and make positive change to the care system. Being a part of the MCYPC is also a chance to make friends, have fun and share issues with other young people in similar situations.
- There's lots of ways to get involved...you can pick and choose whatever works for you! Anything from completing online surveys, attending activity sessions and workshops or even meeting directly with the bosses of Medway Council!
- Rewards!** We thank young people who take part in MCYPC with a reward system which includes hoodies, drinks bottles, vouchers and free activity trips and...we always make sure to have lots of yummy food when we meet!
- Our MCYPC members have lots of great experiences, including speaking to the Children's Commissioner, delivering training to Medway social workers, visiting the houses of Parliament and beating Medway professionals in a football match at Priestfield Stadium! Check out our blog for the latest news from the world of MCYPC: <https://yjf.org.uk/category/mcypc/>
- Want to join us?** Contact us directly or ask someone to contact us on your behalf at: mcypc@yjf.org.uk or Ellie.Fiore@yjf.org.uk

INTRODUCING OUR THEMES



MCYPC UPDATE



MCYPC have raised the main themes young people told us they would like to discuss, review and improve in Medway. We hold surveys, youth groups and activities with young people to talk about each theme. We then share your views with the Corporate Parenting Board- this is where the people in charge of making improvements agree what actions they will take to help.

THE THEMES....



LISTENING TO YOU



SCHOOL, COLLEGE & WORK



FEELING SAFE AND CARED FOR



HEALTH & SUPPORT



HOME & HOUSING



HOW YOU CAN FEEDBACK TO THE CPB



If you would like to get involved and feedback on any of the above themes through the MCYPC:

You can email sophie.wilson@ylf.org.uk or MCYPC@ylf.org.uk

Or call us on 01622 693459 / 07736 298549

Your feedback will then be used anonymously towards the Corporate Parenting Board meeting where we discuss the themes and we will update you on the progress.



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?



CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD TAKEOVER DAY



MCYPC held their Corporate Parenting Board Takeover Day which was a huge success, with 10 young people attending and 19 Corporate Parents in attendance. We had great feedback and it was a great opportunity for the Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) and the MCYPC to get more involved together.

You may be aware that no matter what activity we are doing, food is one of our favourite parts, so we had some informal pizza time at the end and a chance to get to know our Corporate Parents better.

During the meeting we discussed MCYPC's achievements, Challenge Cards, fears and solutions around employment and education, and how young people can engage more with CPB and other activities to get to know each other more.



ACTIVITY EVENING & BBQ EVENT

On Friday 24th September, the MCYPC and Medway Council held a fun feedback event for young people in Medway to feedback about different topics so that the young people of Medway could have their voice heard about their experiences of being in care.

We decided to get creative as there have been a lot of feedback consultations and our young people were finding it hard to engage. Therefore, we decided to host a fun activity evening with interactive ways of collecting feedback as well as having lots of fun!

There were 35 young people in attendance and also some CPB members, Medway Youth Service and YLF staff to help at the event. We really enjoyed seeing all of our young people happy and having loads of fun. We had fun activities like nerf, football, a bouncy castle, karaoke and archery!

If you would like to take a look at the report we have put together from your feedback at the event, please head to ylf.org.uk/mcypc



INTRODUCING OUR NEW PERSONALISED MCYPC HOODIES



THE HOODIES ARE IN OUR RANGE OF PRIZES WHEN YOU RECEIVE 10 REWARD CARD STAMPS!

YOU SAID.. WE DID!



MCYPC UPDATE



The MCYPC shared that they would like to be rewarded in some way for their participation.. so we have introduced our new Reward Card system!

Every time a young person from MCYPC or Legends programme participates in an activity or gives feedback, they will be rewarded through our new reward card scheme!

Collect stamps and receive big and small prizes such as hoodies, vouchers, sweets and many many more...

CHALLENGE CARDS.....

Medway children in care and care leavers told us they would like managers and decision makers to have a good understanding of the challenges they face in care so that their experiences can be used to make positive change. They wanted their feedback to be listened to and taken seriously and see evidence that action has been taken to improve the care experience. So, the Challenge Card was created!

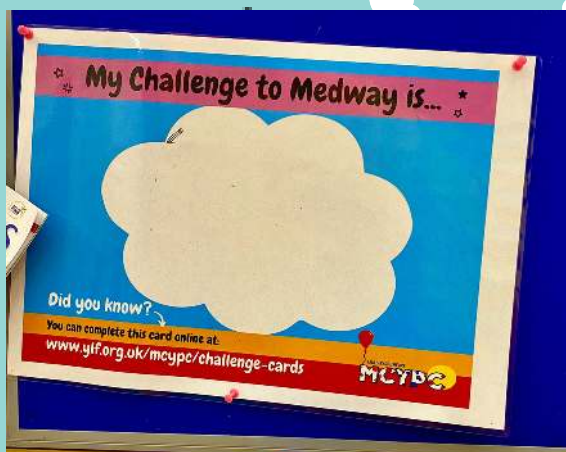
Challenge Cards are a quick and easy way for young people to share views and experiences of being in care and let Medway's top managers know how they would like to see them improve support, services and the care system.

If you are a Medway young person or care leaver and have a Challenge for Medway Council or thoughts on how they can improve, from foster placements, to social worker training, all you need to do put it on a Medway Challenge Card and we will do the rest on your behalf!

>>>> If you are a Medway young person in care or a Medway care leaver aged up to 24, wherever you live, you can submit a Medway Challenge Card to us!

www.ylf.org.uk/mcypc/challenge-cards

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THEM?



Completed Challenge Cards are shared anonymously at our MCYPC meetings. The top managers in Medway who have responsibility for decisions made about Children's Services will be at these meetings. They will be able to listen and take on board the points or challenge raised.

If we are able to take forward the Challenge, we will work to a deadline to see it's completed (if it can't be completed we find out why and let you know).

Once actioned, it will be formally signed off by MCYPC and Medway's Corporate Parenting Board and the MCYPC will share the outcome on our social media platforms and website.



COMPETITION TIME



WHAT IS IT?



BRIGHT IDEAS...

Our next theme to feedback to the Corporate Parenting Board is around **'school, college and work'**

We would like to hear from you...

What ideas do you have that could improve education and training opportunities for young people in care and care leavers?

HOW TO ENTER

We would like you to get as creative and colourful as possible with your ideas and then send us a photo of your final piece.

All we need you to do is simply send us your photo ideas by Friday 3rd December via email to mcypc@ylf.org.uk for your chance to be entered into our prize draw.

Remember EVERY idea is valid!

We can't wait to hear from you!



THE PRIZE



Once you have submitted your ideas to us by the deadline date of Friday 3rd December, you will then be entered into our prize draw!

We will then choose a lucky winner at random to win a MCYPC Christmas bundle which includes a MCYPC pen, wristband, stress ball and Christmas chocolate box.

Could this be YOU? get involved and share your creativity with us and have your voice heard!



CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH



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CAN YOU FIND

....
 Christmas
 Santa
 Merry
 Sled
 Star



Join Us!



I AM, BECAUSE WE ARE

MCYPC



MEDWAY CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE COUNCIL



Trips & Activities

Surveys

JOIN US TO HELP
MAKE POSITIVE
CHANGES FOR ALL
MEDWAY CHILDREN IN
CARE & CARE LEAVERS

Prizes

Arts Awards

ASDAN Awards

Social Media

Formal Council Meetings

Youth Groups

CONTACT US



01622 693459



MCYPC@YLF.ORG.UK



YLF.ORG.UK/MCYPC