

## **Become 2017/18 – Young Persons Perspective**

I joined the Become board in 2017 with aspirations to achieve something better in the strive to make everything in and around the subject of children in care a whole lot better and at this meeting we get the opportunity to talk to others who may have had similar experiences or their own experience and express our concerns and this can even be taken to the MP that goes to parliament and discusses this and demands approval if needed for something like more support for young carers which is a topic I took with me and even though I am not a young carer myself I have friends that are and I know how much they can struggle and this point is going to be made in the house of commons and hopefully Young Carers should be getting more support sooner rather than later.

I think that joining this board was an easy process in a way as I have the right social skills and I am creative which is what this role requires and to be accepted onto the role at the time was amazing as it includes a trip down to London which is not something you do every day unless of course you work or live there and since joining there has been multiple topics including; Young Carers Support, More social worker training in areas they don't already cover now, Support with tax for areas that haven't got the support with council tax basically everything that is covered by our Barnardos groups except this is the next level and one step closer to the parliament and getting things sorted on a more countrywide scale rather than just the North West.

Recently I have been accepted onto their other board which is called the Young Editors group and this takes care of the magazine that Become produce quarterly and I had the pleasure of meeting more new people and meeting Dominic who is the leader of both groups well I say leader I mean he plans the meetings and the young people are the leaders and in this meeting we mainly cover the magazine topics and this is what we discuss in the policy advisory group which is the other one I attend and in the young editors we decide the creativity side of the magazine and I have been asked to do a page on hairdressing to show what young people can and will achieve in their future lives and careers. So basically I go to the meeting of both boards 4 times a year so I travel down to London eight times a year on behalf of young people and try my best to get action on the topics that they ask me to cover and then they take action.

**Sam R**