

# New Belongings Care Leaver Project

---

The Plan

# What is New Belongings?

---

- New Belongings is a group of care leavers who meet with the Minister for children in London. Their main aim is to improve the care leaver service within local authorities. This gives the chance for care leavers themselves to change things for the better!
- New Belongings has arrived in Lancashire!



# What we are going to do within the next six months!

---

- We have a plan of what we intend to do within the next six months, New Belongings are helping us with this! We have a list of 8 things we want to get better at, improve on or achieve!

# Personal Advisers

---

- Every 16 year old in care will be given a PA, they will support with preparation for living independently.
- We are going to provide training for PA's so that they can provide good support to care leavers.
- Support will continue to 21 or 25 in some circumstances.



# Updating Information

---

- All the information about leaving care will be looked at and updated so all the information you get is correct and is easy to understand. This information will also be given to PA's and social workers. We will be looking at information such as:
  - Money- What you are entitled too
  - Staying Put
  - Flow chart for Social Workers and Personal Advisors
  - Evaluation Forms-We need to know how you feel about the support you receive-What's good or bad.

# National Care Leaver Week

---

- We would like to organize an event for National Care Leavers week. This will be a fun packed week that will bring care leavers together from right across Lancashire.
- Care Leavers week 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October

# Ideas Of What We Should Do?

---





# PROUD Event

---

- We are also looking at the County PROUD Event and we want to highlight the achievements of care leavers at this event.





# Benefits

---

- Some care leavers claim benefits when they leave care. THIS CAN BE CONFUSING and FRUSTRATING!! To make things easier we are making links with job centres in Lancashire with the aim that each one has a Care Leaver 'Champion' who can help with new claims and makes things a little less confusing!

# Care Leaver Mentoring Scheme

---

- We are going to develop a care leaver mentoring scheme. This will be aimed at Lancashire County Council staff who could provide support for care leavers such as:
  - University
  - College
  - Training



# Accommodation Options

---

- We would like to improve accommodation options for care leavers and ensure care leavers are better prepared for living independently. This would include:
  - Tenancy awareness training for 16- 17 year olds
  - Housing Panels-which will look at Housing Needs
  - Independent living toolkit
  - Unfortunately some care leavers become homeless-we are looking at what emergency options are available so alternative housing is found quickly.
  - Set up a PA and care leaver focus group to look at housing issues/good practise. Accommodation checklist and Setting Up Home Allowance list.

# Care Leaver Forum

---

- We will work with Barnardos to ensure that the forum has a good representation from care leavers all around the county.

