

Your Life, Your Care: 4-7 year olds survey findings



We asked you some questions about what life is like for you. We asked lots of children in care the same questions. This is what you all told us and what we want to do.

YOU SAID

What was good?

- All of you felt settled and liked your bedroom.
- Nearly all of you felt safe where you live.
- All of you trusted your carers.
- Nearly all of you trusted your social workers.
- All of you thought that you were feeling happy, or ok.
- Everyone did things that were fun at the weekends.
- Most of you thought life was getting better.

What was bad?

- Some of you did not know why you were in care.
- Some of you did not know your social worker.
- Some of you felt that grown ups did not notice your feelings.
- 2 of you did not have a good friend.
- Some of you did not like school.

YOU SAID

I would like to see my Mammy more.

Rydw i'n hapus gyda llawer o ffrindiau.

I'm happy with lots of friends.

Hoffwo i gael dillad gwisgo i fyny.

I would like to have dressing-up clothes.

I don't like it when contact is cancelled because the taxi doesn't come.



Thank you to all of you who answered the questions. It really helped to read about how you feel. Because of what you told us Rhondda Cynon Taf have decided to make some changes.

WE WILL

1. Tell you why you don't live with your mam and dad.
2. Make sure you know who your Social Worker is.
3. Help the grown ups looking after you, listen to what you have to say.
4. Make sure you know who you can go to, to feel safe in school.

bright spots

The survey was created together with children in care to ask about the things that was important to them. Coram Voice and University of Bristol have done the same survey in other local authorities and will bring together your responses to show what care is like for children across the country. If you want to find out more email: brightspots@coramvoice.org.uk

Your Life, Your Care: 8-11 year olds survey findings



We asked you some questions about what life is like for you. We asked lots of children in care the same questions. This is what you all told us and what we want to do.

YOU SAID

What was good?

- Most of you felt that your lives were getting better.
- Nearly all of you had an adult you could trust.
- Nearly all of you knew and trusted your social worker.
- Most of you liked school.
- Almost all of you had a good friend.
- Lots of you got to explore outdoors and have fun at weekends.
- Almost all of you liked your bedroom.

What was bad?

- Some of you did not feel settled where you live.
- A few of you wanted to know more about why you were in care.
- Some of you wanted to have more contact with your mothers, brothers and sisters.
- More than half of you felt that social workers made decisions without asking you or explaining why things were changing.
- Some of you did not know that you could speak to your social worker on your own.
- Some of you were sometimes afraid to go to school because of bullying.

YOU SAID

What would make care better?

More fun.

I like my life better now because I get to see my Mammy more.

I live with my brother and sister. I am happy living with them.

I want to live with my Mam and Dad. I want to live with my Gran.



Thank you to all of you who answered the questions. It really helped to read about how you feel. Because of what you told us Rhondda Cynon Taf have decided to make some changes.

WE WILL

1. Make sure you know why you are being looked after in care.
2. Make sure that you can say what you think and adults listen to you, when they make decisions about what happens to you.
3. Help the carers looking after you to take time to understand how you feel.
4. Make sure you know who to speak to and where you can go, to feel safe in school.

bright spots

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Your Life, Your Care: 11-18 year olds survey findings



In February 2018 we asked you some questions about what life is like for you to understand how we can make it better. We asked lots of children in care the same questions. Here is what you all told us and what we want to do.

YOU SAID

What was good?

- Nearly all of you had a good friend.
- Most of you felt safe at home, liked your bedrooms, trusted your carers and thought that your carers supported your learning at school.
- Most of you felt that you got a second chance if you did something wrong.
- Nearly all of you thought that your carers noticed how you were feeling.
- Most of you thought you could do the same things as your friends who are not in care.
- A majority of you liked school/college.

What was bad?

- You had a lot of social worker changes and some of you did not trust your social worker.
- Over a third of you (36%) wanted to know more about why you were in care and half of you were not happy about how contact was set up.
- About a third of you worried about going to school because of bullying.
- Some of you worried about how you look and about your feelings and behaviours.
- Some of you felt that adults embarrassed you by drawing attention to you being in care.

YOU SAID

Adults to do what they say they will between my meetings.

In parents' evening people say, "This is your mam isn't it?"

I think being in care is helpful and it has helped me to control my anger more and made me a better person. My carers helped me the most.

Stop having so many social workers.



Thank you to all of you who answered the questions. It really helped to read about how you feel. Because of what you told us Rhondda Cynon Taf have decided to make some changes.

WE WILL

1. Make sure you know why you are in care.
2. Make sure that your opinions are listened to and taken seriously, when adults make decisions that affect you.
3. Help the carers looking after you to take time to understand how you feel.
4. Make sure you know who to speak to and where you can go, to feel safe in school.

bright spots

The survey was created together with children in care to ask about the things that was important to them. Coram Voice and University of Bristol have done the same survey in other local authorities and will bring together your responses to show what care is like for children across the country. If you want to find out more email: brightspots@coramvoice.org.uk