



Nottinghamshire
County Council

The Pledge

OUR
Promise
to Children
and Young
People
in Care

Nottinghamshire County Council have made this Pledge to Looked After Children and Young People. Young people were involved in the Pledge and were represented by No Labels.

The Pledge is a list of promises to children and young people.

We cannot promise to do everything you ask but when we cannot we will explain why.

No Labels is the name of our Children In Care Council.

It's a place where young people meet up to talk about life in care.

You can find out more about No Labels from Sue Shaw on 07740 845824, or ask your social worker for information.

▼ SOCIAL WORKERS

Young People SAY...

- We would like a qualified social worker and to meet our social worker away from our foster home so that we can talk openly.
- We would like the social worker's telephone number so we can contact them.

We Promise

A qualified social worker for every young person in care. Your social worker will listen to you and make sure you have our contact details.

Your social worker will meet with you away from your foster home if you wish.

Young People SAY...

- Who can we talk to about our social worker if we are not happy?

We Promise

You will not be in trouble if you tell your social worker you are not happy about something they do.

You can talk to an independent visitor or advocacy worker if you are not happy about your social worker.

▼ REVIEWS

Young People SAY...

- Some of us do not see our care plan before our review or we get it too late so we feel we cannot contribute.
- We want to see our care plan at least two weeks before the review so that we are given time to have a say in the services we need and who attends our review.

Young People SAY...

- We want reviews done out of school time.
- We do not like to be taken out of school or out of class.
- We would like our reviews to occur in places that we know, where we feel safe, and that are nice for young people.

We Promise

An up to date care plan for every Looked After Child and Young Person and the opportunity to have your say before your review meeting.

We will listen to your views about where and when to have your reviews, and who comes to them.

▼ CONTACT

Young People SAY...

- We would like contact with our brothers, sisters and families to be arranged with a diary in advance.
- Young people feel under pressure to attend at the last minute that makes us have to make a choice about meeting our family or going out with our friends.

We Promise

Unless there are good reasons not to, you can have contact with your brothers and sisters and other family members.

We will make sure the meetings are planned in advance.

▼ INCLUDING EVERYONE

Young People SAY...

- Please make sure you include unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people, young people with disabilities and those from different backgrounds when you consult us.

We Promise

To listen to all children and young people.

Services that meet the needs of young people from different backgrounds, cultures and disabilities.

▼ WHERE WE LIVE

Young People SAY...

- Who can young people speak to if the carer does not meet our needs?
- Please tell us who we can talk to about our carers if we are not happy?

We Promise

A place to live with carers who will meet your needs.

We will make sure you can speak to your social worker, youth worker, advocacy worker or an independent visitor if you have concerns.

Help for young people to have their say if they are not happy. No Labels, our Children In Care Council, will speak up for you to improve services.

We will also make sure that services for young people in care, children's homes and foster care are checked to make sure they give good services.

Young People SAY...

- Some of us have to keep moving foster home, which makes us worried.

We Promise

We will try our best to help you stay in your foster home where you are happy.

We will make sure you can tell us your views at your review.

▼ EDUCATION

Young People SAY...

- We have the right to go to school full-time.

We Promise

We will make sure you have a school place.

We will work with schools to ensure that you get full-time education.

We will try to ensure that you get into a school within six days if you are out of school or have moved.

Nursery or early years education for children in care who are three to four-years-old.

Young People SAY...

- Who is the teacher in my school to help me if I have any worries?

We Promise

A teacher whose job is to help young people in care to do as well as other young people. This person is called a Designated Teacher. We will make sure you are given the teacher's name when you start or change school.

You will have a plan which guides your time in school—this is called a PEP (Personal Education Plan).

Young People SAY...

- Please tell us about the Personal Education Allowance (PEA).

We Promise

To tell you about the Personal Education Allowance (PEA). This is a payment which can be used to help you catch up with school work.

Support to help you feel happy in school.

JOINING IN

Young People SAY...

- We sometimes feel worried about taking part with other young people. We would like someone to support us to help us feel confident, like a youth worker or a social worker.

We Promise

Help to take part in things, like sports and clubs. We will tell you about the youth work team for Looked After Young People.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Young People SAY...

- Please can we have the name of the nurse for young people in care who can give us confidential advice and help?

We Promise

We will make sure you get regular health and dental check-ups.

We will give you contact details of the nurse for Looked After Children and Young People.

LEAVING CARE

Young People SAY...

- We get worried about what age we have to leave care and who will help us.

We Promise

To work with you to give all the help and support you need to make a success with moving on from care to adult life.

You will have a Pathway Plan which we will write with you and you can keep a copy.

We will give you all the information you need about leaving care.

Young People Who Have Left Care SAY...

- We cannot always remember completing a Pathway Plan and would like it updated regularly.
- We would like a small card, which tell us our entitlement to money, etc., at ages 16–18 (we get information but forget).
- We would like more support when we first move out from care.

We Promise

We will keep you informed about what money you are entitled to.

We will make sure we talk to you regularly about your Pathway Plan.

OTHER THINGS

Young People SAY...

- We would like to know what our rights are if we get into trouble with the police, for example:
- What is the law about the age we are classed as an adult?
- Are we allowed to phone someone if we are at the police station?

We Promise

To provide a card with information to support you if you get into trouble.

Young People SAY...

- We would like more advice about self-harming and how we can be signposted to help and support.

We Promise

We will give you up to date information about available support.

We Also Promise

To give you a Children's Guide, which contains lots of information about Being Looked After.

That we will check our Pledge to you often, so that when we can, we will improve on the promises that we have made.

We will listen to your views through No Labels– Nottinghamshire's Children In Care Council.

We cannot promise to do everything you ask, but when we cannot we will explain why.

**Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall
West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 7QP**

0844 980 8080

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk



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