

What are the key challenges facing Care Leavers at University?

Feel like they don't 'belong'

Finances Accommodation
Support Networks Isolation

Year-round, affordable
accommodation

Getting there! Building networks

Continuity of support - or lack of!

Knowing support networks
available

Finances, accomodation,
loneliness

Not enough personalized
support

Overwhelming and difficult to
navigate support



What are the key challenges facing Care Leavers at University?

The cognitive overload and stress of being financially independent. Navigating the support that is there for them. The cognitive overload and stress of being financially independent. Navigating the support that is there for them.

Access to wellbeing support

finding stable housing (most care leavers lack a guarantor)

Feeling supported to attend

Worried about things other than studies

Stigma, lack of support, networks, finances

located, lack of support from LA not knowing their rights

Don't have access to same networks of career supporting contacts as some students might.

Accommodation, finance, mental health, support networks



What are the key challenges facing Care Leavers at University?

Lack of year round support - only during term time.

Self confidence

What careers/transition support do care leavers need?

Up reach 

Interview help

Network opportunities, mentors

Contacts / help to access work experience

Access to real opportunities that will enhance their advantage when graduating and focus their long term plans

Forming links to organizations that will support care leavers as part of there CSR

Networking support, internships

Networks to professional contacts and support with dev skills gaps

Housing support



What careers/transition support do care leavers need?

Confidence building, including interview skills, networking, generally feeling comfortable in the professional environment

Careers IAG

Help into employment (e.g. applications etc). Also, help with finance to bridge the gap between leaving university and finding a job.

industry contacts

Work experience opportunities
Access to networks of professionals
Access to mentors

Good relationship with others
know where to look for advice

interview and application support

course information, resources, such as work books, careers contact/mentor

How can we collaborate to support students through their Higher Education journey?

Steering group and bring in specialists

Make more specific care leaver internships like care leaver covenant

Keep communication lines continuous to engage and support with career aspirations

All the things your doing sound fab! If it was possible to integrate with the support LAs are offering that would be amazing.

these meeting should help when each different agency knows what the others are doing - I find in social care situations some people work in silos and try to be everyone for their YP when they should involve other specialists like yourself

Sharing of opportunities for work experience with partner LA's

all provide are own expertise and communicate frequently with each other

Drive Forward specifically seek collaboration with employer partners who deliver ring fenced opportunities

Generally, standardise support offers across HEIs to remove pressure of 'recruitment' incentives during student decision making



How can we collaborate to support students through their Higher Education journey?

communication and updates at each point and keeping students in touch with our services and those of agencies around us

Raise the profile of all the work we do amongst all of colleagues in our institutions

Networks and opportunities for sharing good practice with wider partnerships

