

Greater Manchester Higher Care Leaver Awards

Monday 23rd October 2023

This October, the Care Leaver Awards will once again be welcoming care leavers and their supporters from across Greater Manchester to celebrate their achievements.

The event is organised by the universities and local authorities in Greater Manchester and provides an opportunity for you to highlight someone you think deserves recognition for something they have achieved in their life.

Categories

This year we have 10 categories to nominate young people. We recognise that many care leavers achieve success despite experiencing very difficult circumstances in their lives. These awards give you a chance to recognise achievement in:

- **Further Education (studying at level 3 or above)**
A young person who has achieved success in college or sixth form or university.
- **Further Education (studying below level 3)**
A young person who has achieved success in college or sixth form.
- **Higher Education**
A young person who has achieved success in higher education.
- **The World of Work & Apprenticeships**
A young person who has demonstrated commitment to their job or apprenticeship or has achieved a particular success in the workplace.
- **Activism, Community and Volunteering**
A young person who has actively and positively participated in their community, e.g. through charity work or volunteering, or by being a member of a youth council or district forum
- **Enrichment activities (Sport, Leisure and Creativity)**
A young person who has achieved high standards in an enrichment activity, such as sports or a creative activity.
- **Positive action**
A young person who has taken positive action to move towards achieving personal goals and milestones.
- **Family**
A young person who has supported family members despite facing challenges of their own.
- **Key Influencer**
This is to recognise someone who has provided outstanding support to care leavers. This can be professionals, foster carers, or people working on a voluntary basis.
- **All round inspirational person**
A young person whose achievements may not fit into a single category, but who is an inspiration to others. We'd welcome nominations of young people who have demonstrated resilience in how they have overcome particular challenges they've faced.

Making a nomination

Please read all the information below before submitting a nomination

- Nominations can be made by anyone who works with a care leaver (e.g. social worker, teacher, residential worker, volunteer, carer etc.) You do not have to be a professional. Nominations for the Key Influencer Award can be made by young people.
- Nominations are submitted via gecko form. **Please note we are not able to provide copies of nominations under any circumstances, this is due to the sensitive nature of the data.** We recommend using the guidance below to draft your submission in Word and then copy pasting the answers in the form.
- **Nominees must be aged 16-25 who are either in local authority care or have left care and are defined as a care leaver by the local authority**
- You can nominate as many young people as you want, just complete a separate form for each person.
- Judges will only refer to the nomination form when deciding winners so please provide as much information as possible, **without divulging private information about the young person.** For example, you could tell us about their: grades achieved in education; involvement in charity or community work; commitment to an apprenticeship or training course; success they have had in the workplace; how they have participated in enrichment activity.
We recommend 100-500 words per section.
- Judges will be looking for evidence of the following:
 - Proactivity
 - Dedication
 - Improvements/distance travelled relating to the context of their situation
 - Personal contribution (i.e. to projects they have taken part in)

Details we require on the form are:

- **Nominees details-** Full name, local authority, contact details.
- **Your details-** name, relationship to nominee, contact details.
- **Information on why you are nominating the young person for the category.** (100-500 words). Please focus on the young person's achievements and do not include any personal or sensitive information. **(Please note: Information in this section may be read at the Awards. Please DO NOT include anything you wouldn't like read out)**
- **Contextual information (100-500 words)** - Please use this section to provide any information you would like the judges to be aware of. **Please note no information in this section only be seen by the judges** and will not be referred to in any way.
- Comment from the young person on their achievements/nomination for the awards.
- How you heard about the awards.
- You will be asked to tick a box confirming that you have talked to the nominee about nominating them and that they are aware of the nomination. **Please make sure you discuss the nomination with them before submitting.**

The deadline for submitting is Wednesday 20th September at 5pm. Nominations must be submitted via the gecko form-

Event information

- Invitations to RSVP will be sent out automatically once the form is submitted, not once the deadline has passed.
- **Please RSVP to the event email by Friday 6th October so that you are guaranteed a place at the event. Those not on the guest list may be refused entry.**
- The Care Leaver Awards is taking place at the Royal Northern College of Music on Monday 23rd October from 5.45pm until 9pm
- There will be a buffet dinner at the event from (insert time) Please write in your RSVP if you have any dietary requirements.
- The Royal Northern College of Music is located in Manchester City Centre What3Words [quench.poems.shop](https://www.what3words.com/en/quench.poems.shop). The entrance can be found on Booth St West.
- For information on travelling to the venue, including parking, please refer to the [RNCM website](#)
- If you need accessible parking please share this when you RSVP to have a space reserved for you as there is limited spaces available at the venue.

Nominations can be made here:

<https://app.geckoform.com/public/#/modern/21FO00hcryhb2z008pg8h4ci0n>

You can register your attendance here:

<https://app.geckoform.com/public/#/modern/21FO00hcpt1p5o00k778jrguyv>