

Rotherham Looked After Children's Council & Lil' LAC CLUB –

Update Report for October 2018 - Corporate Parenting Panel

Summary

The LAC Council and Lil' LAC Club have been busy having fun, socialising and working together achieving fabulous results by continuing to help shape Rotherham Services and engage in Rotherham Show. The LAC Council are very proud to have collected their Diana Award in recognition for their 'Outstanding Contribution to Society', have continued to help shape services by actively participating in the CCG LAC Health Consultation young people have also engaged in an exciting full summer activity programme including 'EQUALITIES' debates, cake making, Visit to town Hall, and a day trip to Skeggy Vegas.

The numerous experiences and opportunities offered to young people at the LAC Council and Lil' LACC are specifically designed to increase social capital, self-awareness and self-esteem, to foster resilience and support better outcomes for our vulnerable young people. Here are some of the things that we have been doing to achieve these outcomes that we would like to share with you;

Diana Award Winners – LAC Council Shaping Services



In September, members of our Looked After Children's Council (LACC) attended a star studded ceremony in Leeds to collect a prestigious Diana Award for their outstanding contribution to society.

The LACC, was publically honoured for the work they have done to campaign for rights of children in care, in particular the work they did earlier this year to ensure bin liners were not used as suitcases when children moved between foster care placements. The group implemented the 'Bin Liners are NOT Suitcases' campaign earlier this year to lobby nationally to ensure that all Council's adhere to national guidance to stop the use of bin liners when moving between placements with huge success.

The Diana Award charity was set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, and is the most illustrious accolade a young person aged 9-25 years can receive for their social action or humanitarian work and the group should be extremely proud of their achievements. Well done to all the children and young people - they are truly inspirational and this reward recognises the difference they have already made in ensuring all our children have the best start in life both now and in the future. **Sharon Kemp, Chief Executive RMBC**

NHS Health Consultation

The LAC Council have been commissioned by CCG to engage in the LAC Health Assessment Consultation, this is part of an ongoing commitment by the LAC Council to help shape LAC health services. The CCG based the consultation around a fun game show theme, Ian Walker was the Game Show Host asking the questions and young people were split into two teams with their individual buzzers to vote on their response. It was a fun filled session and young people enjoyed themselves. The voices of the LAC Council are included within a CCG report that are now awaiting proposals from the TRFT.

LAC Summer Activity Programme

EQUALITEAS



The LAC COUNCIL engaged in the national 'Big Debate' activity from UK Parliament where young people participated in discussing equalities and sharing their ideas around historical and modern ways of thinking about the differences between men and women, people with disabilities, LGBTQ community etc and how these inequalities were/are expressed in society, through democracy, jobs, and pay. The session wasn't all serious debate and awareness raising as young people also had a fun time together baking a selection of buns, including biscuits and

chocolate brownies, cornflake cake and rice-crispie buns. CIDON construction Steve Simpson & Jane Galloway came to group to join in the fun and so did Ailsa Barr (HOS, localities Social work) who talked about her new role and introduce herself to our young people.

Town Hall Visit

The LAC Council were invited for tea and cakes at the Town Hall with the Mayor, RMBC CEX Sharon Kemp and Cllr Gordan Watson. The special invite and tour of the Town Hall had been arranged to thank the LAC Council for their dedication and commitment to help shape Services in Rotherham that has led to the group winning the Diana Award. The Voice & Influence and co-production work undertaken by the LACC volunteers has ensured that the voices of Looked After and Leaving Care young people are heard to inform practice and improve services for the future.



LAC Skeggy Vegas Trip

The LAC Council have secured some funding from the Community award and CIDON Construction to pay for Looked After Children's Activities. The funding has been set aside for three trips, the first trip was to 'Skeggy Vegas' where siblings living with different foster carers were invited to spend the day together. 18 young people spent the morning in Fantasy Island and the afternoon playing on the beach and paddling in the sea, with lashings of chips and pop for lunch. The young people had a fabulous time together and the trip was a great success. For those old enough to remember the 'Club Trips' of the 70's this was very reminiscent of those days, organised chaos and lots of fun!



Community Engagement

Rotherham Show 2018

14 Members of the LAC Council volunteered to run the Voice & Influence stand for the LAC Council over the Rotherham Show weekend. The group enjoyed promoting the LAC participation groups to other children and engaged in numerous craft activities, showing children how to make bracelets, paint selfie portraits, make 'chatterbox' games and festival flowers. One young person Angelina created a selfie frame and the group chose the title '*what do you like about yourself?*' young people and adults were encouraged to participate and say something good about themselves. There was lots of fun as LACC members also painted dozens of faces with mermaid paints.



Lil LAC Club -Activities



Our Lil LAC Club (Lil LACC) have moved to Dalton Youth Club for their participation sessions on Thursdays. The LIL LAC Club are our youngest participation group aged 6 to 11 years. The children have started meeting up again every two weeks following the summer break. We are actively recruiting to the LIL LAC Club to give as many children the opportunity to have fun, meet and make new friends and play games together in a safe welcoming environment. The children have been engaging in creative games together and have started to play at writing and delivering presentations using the 'Worlds Worst Pet' game.

Games

Creative Fun!



LAC Council Guests - Young people from the LAC Council would like to thank all of our guests, friends, volunteers and supporters who have visited the LAC Council. These include:-

Ian Walker – Head of Service Children in Care

Catherine Hall – Head of Safeguarding CCG

Karen Holgate – Named Nurse - Looked After Children & Care Leavers.

Paul Theaker –Commissioning Manager, NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group

Lisa Gash – Safeguarding & Quality Assurance Officer NHS

Cllr Gordan Watson - Deputy Leader of the Council

Cllr Alan Buckley – Mayor

Sandra Buckley - Mayoress

Jane Galloway -Procurement Manager CIDON Construction

Steve Simpson – Director CIDON Construction

Sharon Kemp – Chief Executive RMBC

LAC Voice, Influence & Participation Volunteers

Thank You All 😊

Contact Name:

Lisa Du-Valle

**LAC Voice, Influence & Participation Lead
Children in Care**

Tel: 01709 822130 or Mob: 07748143388

Email: lisa.duvalle@rotherham.gov.uk



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