



**ROTHERHAM**


**Spring 2020**

**Looked After Children's Council**

# LAC Voice Newsletter

**Who are we?** We are a group of individuals who are in care from Rotherham between the ages of 11 and 18. We run this group to try and change young people's lives that are being brought up through the care system.

## Children's Home Visit

We visited the new Residential Home **Pegasus House** in Rotherham to check that it had everything that we need. We loved the size of the bedrooms and the chill out room! It has a great garden with Bar BQ area and seating. It's very posh and will soon be ready for Rotherham Looked After Children & Young People to move in. 

*By Brogan*



LAC Council @ Pegasus House

## KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL

We went on a Residential break to Kingswood Activity Centre for 3 days and we met up with other young people from across our Region who are also living in care. We did loads of stuff together like Zip-Wiring, Archery, Buggy Building, Camp Fire and Abseiling.



It was a break away with our friends to have a laugh

*By Kiran*



**Our LAC Council look at how things are for us in care and try to make things better! our focus right now is:-**

## LAC Free Leisure Pass Campaign

The LAC Council launched our Free Leisure Pass Campaign for 13 to 20 year olds at the Corporate Parenting Panel. We want a free Leisure pass to go to gyms, swimming pools and Leisure centres in Rotherham. We are passionate about this so we can go out with our friends. Cllr Watson and Ian Walker (Head of Children in Care) have been working in the background to support this action. The LAC Council will be looking for an update at the next CPP meeting.

## Total Respect Training Update

The LAC Council are delivering their 'total respect' training to Social Workers, Managers and people working with Looked After and Leaving Care young people. We have worked hard to put this training together based on our experiences in care & the point of this training is to put adults in our shoes and understand what it feels like to be us to change attitudes & stereotypes about us.

If you have some ideas please let us know!

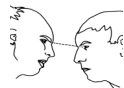


## Pride of Rotherham Awards 2019

Rotherham held its Pride of Rotherham awards to celebrate the fabulous achievements of our Looked After and Leaving Care Children and Young People. We all got a trophy and Certificate, goody bags and loads of neon stuff. The theme was '*Glow BIG or Glow Home*' Over 180 of us went to the party who had been nominated for categories which covered Education, Sports, Arts, Positive Contributions and the Leaving Care awards.

### Money Changes for LAC

The money allowances for every Rotherham Looked After Child or Young Person living in foster care & Residential homes were changed in August 2019. It caused a lot of confusion as pocket money and clothing money stayed the same & there was a small increase in Birthday and Holiday money but Xmas/Cultural money was reduced a lot & the group feel this is unfair. In February we took a group of us to a meeting in Rotherham Town Hall to campaign & challenge this decision and try and get our Xmas/Cultural money overturned.



Check below to see if you are getting the right money—if you get more than this then that's great!

By Bella



### Do you know your entitlement?

The LAC Council have recorded below the minimum allowances for every Rotherham Looked After Child or Young Person in Foster Care & Residential Homes

Child Age Group	Pocket Money (weekly)	Clothing Allowance (weekly)	Birthday Allowance (annual)	Cultural Allowance (annual)	Holiday Allowance (annual)
0-4 years	£1.94	£9.75	£133.54	£133.54	£267.08
5-10 years	£4.39	£9.75	£152.12	£152.12	£304.24
11-15 years	£8.64	£12.65	£189.37	£189.37	£378.74
16+ years	£11.39	£12.65	£230.30	£230.30	£460.60

For further information please contact Rights 2 Rights Service, Annette or Sally on Tel: 01709 823764

**What do you think of your Children's Home?** We are running a competition for you in Children's Homes from Rotherham. There are £20 Vouchers for 3 LAC who get their names picked out at random. Please just answer these questions below honestly:

1. What do you like about your Children's home?
2. What don't you like about it?
3. How could Children's Homes be improved?

Please send this completed voucher to: Lisa DuValle @ Riverside House, first floor, wing C, Main Street, Rotherham S60 1AE OR text your answers to Lisa on MOB 07748 143388 OR email Lisa.duvalle@rotherham.gov.uk

Please give me your name, age and residential home. We will keep your name confidential if you want us to. We will contact you and let you know if you have won £20. THANKYOU:-)



We always like getting new members! If you would like to come along to join in we meet every Wednesday @ Myplace in Rotherham. Please contact the LAC Council

Lisa DuValle 07748 143388