

# CONNECTING VOICES



We are 'Connecting Voices' a participation group of care experienced young people who get together regularly to discuss barriers, share stories and attempt to make positive changes for care experienced young people in East Ayrshire.

We see the East Ayrshire Promise as a list of promises made by our corporate parents to help young people reach their full potential when growing up in the care system. Connecting Voices have worked each week on a whole load of ideas to make care better. Like our corporate parents we would like to make it better for a young person entering care and when they leave care. We wanted to update the East Ayrshire promise because we felt it was old and needed updated as there are a few things we thought should be on it that aren't in it.

Our Corporate Parenting 'Ask' is therefore that our Corporate Parents will:

- **Make sure we do our best to keep brothers and sisters together and when this is not possible make sure they have contact as often as possible.**
- **Involve children and young people in all decisions made about them.**
- **Listen to all young people's point of view even if we don't agree.**
- **Make sure young people get the help that they need with education.**
- **Take a chance by giving care experienced young people jobs but also understand that care experienced young people usually don't have mums and dads to help them get jobs.**
- **Promote young care leavers in the correct way by celebrating their achievements.**
- **Support young people and children to travel to see family and friends to help rebuild relationships.**
- **Commit to undertake training on our corporate parenting responsibilities and more communication between them.**
- **Help young people to fit into their communities by providing and supporting community activity programmes.**
- **Find creative ways i.e. social media for young people to keep in touch with their family, social worker & corporate parents.**

Chair  
Community Planning Partnership Board

Chair  
Executive Officers' Group