

Corporate parenting
How Camden looks after you



“We want to make sure that all our looked after children have the best start in life. We want them to be happy, healthy, safe and supported so that they can be successful in their adult life.”



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Mason".

Councillor Angela Mason,
Cabinet Member for Children
Camden Council



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martin Pratt".

Martin Pratt,
Director of Children, Schools and Families
Camden Council

What is 'corporate parenting'?

When you are looked after, lots of different people, from your social worker and carer right up to the Chief Executive and senior councillors, are responsible for making sure you get the best possible care and protection and do well in your life.

This is called corporate parenting and it is what the law says we have to do to make sure you make the most of your opportunities.

Even if you don't live in Camden, we still have the same duty to make sure you are getting the right services and support where you live – for example, having a place in school.



Who is involved?

All these people work together as corporate parents to make sure you are safe and well and able to reach your potential.

- your social worker or personal advisor
- your Independent Reviewing Officer
- other people in Family Services and Social Work who provide you with a service
- your foster carer or key worker
- your teacher and other people at school
- your GP and other health professionals
- councillors and other people in the council who make decisions
- the Participation Officer
- Housing officers
- Virtual School for Looked After Children.



“This project has motivated me even more to push through any educational barriers that may stop me from achieving my best.”

Chloe, Camden Young Inspector

Young Inspectors are young people with experience of having a social worker who give the Council feedback on our services - including how good we are at being a 'corporate parent'. Visit www.backchatonline.org.uk to find out more.

How does corporate parenting work?

Camden has set up a Corporate Parenting Board (CCPB) to make sure all services involved in your care work together to be 'good corporate parents'.

The Board is made up of representatives from all services, councillors, foster carers and young people from the Children in Care Council.

The Board meets four times a year to check that the services provided for looked after children are of a high standard.

Young people attending the CCPB meetings will make sure that looked after children's views are represented at the meeting. We collect your views through consultations, Children in Care Council meetings and the Young Inspectors projects, so make sure you have your say when you can!

How to tell if Camden is a good corporate parent

The Camden Pledge for looked after children and care leavers lists what children said is most important to them.

A good way to know whether Camden is a good corporate parent is to follow this five point checklist from the Camden Pledge.



Checklist

Camden is being a good corporate parent if it is keeping the Camden Pledge promises, even if you live outside Camden.



**STAY
SAFE
AND
KEEP
FIT**



PROMISE

Being fit and healthy

Helping you to keep in good health by making sure that professionals work together and communicate to ensure your health needs are met.



PROMISE

Staying safe from harm

Doing all we can to look after you to keep you protected from harm; making sure you know where to go to for help and that your carers, social workers and teachers support you.



PROMISE

Having a good education, training and enjoying your interests

Giving you the support you need to do well in education, training and helping you to enjoy your interests and hobbies.



PROMISE

Giving your views and making a difference

Making sure that you are involved in the decisions made about your life when you are in care and finding ways to help you to have your say. We want to know what you think about the support you are given and the services we provide.



PROMISE

Getting ready for independence

Giving you the support you need when you leave care and preparing you for independence the best way we can up to the age of 25 if you stay in education or training.



www.backchatonline.org.uk

