

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Corporate Parenting Strategy

2018-2023



Why have a Corporate Parenting Strategy?

'Corporate Parenting' is a phrase used to describe Flintshire's responsibility for children who become looked after. This responsibility doesn't just sit with Social Services though, it's shared between all council staff, local councillors as well as the other people in a child's life who support them. When a child comes into care, even though they may live with foster carers, Flintshire County Council is ultimately responsible for them. It is our responsibility to make sure that children who are looked after are kept safe and get the support they need.



Corporate parenting is based on the idea that Flintshire County Council officers and its Members have the same hopes and goals, and want to provide the same kind of care, that any good parent would provide for their own children.

Looked after children have lots of skills and talents that can benefit society. Sometimes the circumstances that lead to a child coming into care can mean that they need some extra support to maintain their development in order to reach their potential.

This strategy shows what steps Flintshire County Council will take to ensure that the needs of looked after children who are under our care get the support that they need and deserve.

I am a looked after child, what can I do with this strategy?

This strategy is Flintshire's commitment to all looked after children, showing how they will be supported. If you feel that you are not being properly supported to meet your potential, you can use this document to show the professionals who you work with, that Flintshire wants all of its looked after children to feel safe and to be supported.

The support and pledges in this strategy are to support looked after children of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

Our Pledge

Flintshire County Council is dedicated to providing excellent care for children who become looked after.

Our pledge to children who come under our care is that we will work closely with our own staff and other services to keep our children safe and support looked after children in our area. This applies whether they live in or outside of the council border.

Every good parent wants the best for their child, to see their child be healthy, to be safe and happy, to do well at school, and to have good relationships with their friends. We want our looked after children to be able to get involved in their own hobbies and interests, be supported to engage in sport and exercise, and to grow towards being an adult who is ready to be independent and have a successful life. We want our children to feel ready to have further training, support them through apprenticeships or access higher education, get good careers and jobs, and be financially secure.

Flintshire County Council has the same goals for the children it looks after as those of every good parent, and we take seriously the moral and legal responsibility that we have to make sure children in our care experience happy, safe and fulfilling lives.

Quote from Neil Ayling

Quote from Cllr. Christine Jones

Quote From Craig Macleod

Group photograph of members in order to give 'faces to names' of the members responsible as corporate parents and give a personal feel to the strategy.

Alternatively, a photograph of Cllr Christine Jones, Neil Ayling and Craig Macleod with Job Titles to go alongside the quotes. IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THIS IS A COUNCIL WIDE OBJECTIVE AND NOT A SOCIAL SERVICES SPECIFIC STRATEGY.