

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL MEETING

SUMMARY OF MEETING FOR CHILDREN AGE 14 TO 16

The Corporate Parenting Panel is a group of people who meet to talk about how to make life better for children in care and care leavers (young people who used to be in care). They meet four times a year. Here's what they discussed in their meeting in June 2025:

1. Helping Children Find Families

- They talked about adoption and how to make sure children find the right families.
- Some children are adopted, while others live with foster families or relatives.
- They also discussed how to help adopted children stay in touch with their birth families safely if it's a good idea.

2. Making Things Easier for Care Leavers

- Care leavers are young people who used to be in care but are now adults.
- A new website was created to help care leavers find important information, like who to call in an emergency or how to get help with housing or jobs.
- Two care leavers, Lailah and Noah, helped design the website to make it simple and easy to use.

3. Where Children Live

- Some children live with foster families, others with relatives, and some in special homes if they need extra help.
- They talked about making sure all children have safe and happy places to live.

4. Listening to Foster Carers

- Foster carers are people who look after children who can't live with their own families.
- The foster carers are planning fun events like a summer party and a Christmas party for the children.

5. Helping Children Feel Supported

- They talked about how to help children who think or learn differently (this is called neurodiversity).
- They want to make sure these children get the right help early so they can feel happy and do well.

6. Using Technology to Help

- They are using a computer tool called Magic Note to help social workers write notes faster.
- But they also said it's important to check the computer's work to make sure it's correct.



7. More Foster Families

- Good news! Eight new families are being checked to see if they can become foster carers.

8. Making Things Personal

- A care-experienced adult (someone who used to be in care) designed a special card to make letters from the council feel more personal and friendly.

The meeting was all about making sure children in care and care leavers feel safe, supported, and happy. They also want to make sure everyone who helps them, like foster carers and social workers, has the tools and training they need to do a great job.

Do you have any questions about what they talked about? Or any suggestions you'd like to make? If so, then please email Debbie Mitchell at [**Deborah.mitchell@westberks.gov.uk**](mailto:Deborah.mitchell@westberks.gov.uk)

