



Care Leaver Organisations



September 2019

ADCS

(The Association of Directors of Children's Services)



ADCS is a membership organisation specialising in developing, commissioning and leading the delivery of services to children, young people and their families, including education, health, youth, early years and social care services.

Website: <https://adcs.org.uk/>

APPG LAC

(All-Party Parliamentary Group for Looked After Children)



The APPG LAC is open to looked after children and care leavers under the age of 25 who are interested in lobbying for change in the care system. Volunteering opportunities are available.

Website: <https://www.becomecharity.org.uk/improving-the-care-system/appg/>

Article 26 – Helena Kennedy Foundation

The main aim of Article 26 is to promote access to Higher Education for people who have fled persecution and sought asylum in the UK.



Website: <http://article26.hkf.org.uk/>

Barnardo's



As one of the UK's leading children's charities, Barnardo's works directly with children, young people and their families. They run vital services across the UK, including an advocacy service for children and young people.

Website: <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/>

Become

Previously known as the Who Cares Trust. This charity directly supports Care Leavers. They also administer the All-Party Parliamentary group for Looked After Children and Care Leavers.



Website: <https://www.becomecharity.org.uk/>

Buttle UK



Buttle UK provides practical solutions for children living in care. Direct support is based on individual need and areas of focus include boarding places, domestic abuse, emergency essentials, estranged young people and kinship care.

Website: <https://www.buttleuk.org/>

Care Leavers Association The CLA is a user-led charity run by care leavers for care leavers. They provide advice about entitlements and issues such as housing, education and employment etc. However, they also provide advice to older adults, who were in care as children, on issues such as access to records, abuse in care and family tracing.



Website: <http://www.careleavers.com/>

Care Leavers Foundation The Care Leavers' Foundation provides much needed help to care leavers. They make modest but vital grants to care leavers aged 18-29 who are in crisis, or who want to take control of their lives and develop new skills.



Website: <http://www.thecareleaversfoundation.org/>

Catch 22

Catch22 works at every stage of the social welfare cycle to build resilience and aspiration in people and communities. Catch22's wide ranging provision delivers holistic support to looked after children and care leavers whilst in care and once they have left care to improve their life chances.



Website: <https://www.catch-22.org.uk/>

The Children's Society



A UK based organisation that assists street children, disabled children, young refugees, and children in trouble with the law. The Children's Society offers a network of frontline services to tackle child poverty and neglect head on.

Website: <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/>

Coram



Every day Coram offers direct, practical help and emotional support to vulnerable children, young people, and their families. This is achieved by finding adoptive families for children in need of loving, permanent homes, helping traumatised children express their pain through art and music and providing homeless outreach to young people.

Website: <https://coramvoice.org.uk/>

Drive Forward



DRIVE FORWARD

Drive Forward was launched to provide more practical and emotional support to care leavers, helping them develop key skills, confidence and motivation for work, education or training.

Website: <https://driveforwardfoundation.org/>

Family Action

Family Action transforms lives by providing practical, emotional and financial support to those who are experiencing poverty, disadvantage and social isolation across England.



Website: <https://www.family-action.org.uk/>

Fostering Network

The Fostering Network work with over 400 fostering services and nearly 60,000 foster carers, influencing and shaping policy and practice. They help foster carers to improve children's lives.



Website: <https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/>

Just for Kids Law

Just for Kids Law delivers holistic, client-led support to children and young people from crisis to stability and onwards into independence. This is achieved through innovative, community-based legal representation, advocacy and opportunities programme. Driving systemic change through strategic litigation and policy reform.



Website: <https://justforkidslaw.org/>

Legal Action Group



Legal action group is a national, independent charity, which promotes equal access to justice for all members of society who are socially, economically or otherwise disadvantaged. It seeks to improve law and practice, the administration of justice and legal services.

Website: <https://www.lag.org.uk/home>

Local Government Ombudsmen



The Local Government Ombudsman looks at complaints about councils and some other authorities and organisations, including adult social care providers (such as care homes and home care providers).

Website: <https://www.lgo.org.uk/>

NNECL



The National Network for the Education of Care Leavers (NNECL) was established in June 2013 by higher education institutions and national organisations committed to the progression and support of Care Leavers in higher education.

Website: <http://www.nnecl.org/>

Propel



Making the leap from care to independent life at university or college can be both scary and exciting. If you're feeling worried about money, where you're going to live, or who to turn to for guidance, the good news is there's loads of extra support out there just waiting for you to grab it!

Website: <https://propel.org.uk/UK>

Rees Foundation



Rees Foundation services are open to anyone with care experience. They provide a range of services including one-to-one mentoring, events to meet people and share experiences, access to advice information and local services.

Website: <http://www.reesfoundation.org/>

Refugee Support Network



For refugees arriving in Europe, education is a priority. Their services enable young people seeking safety in the UK, whether or not they have been granted refugee status or are still going through the asylum process, to move towards more hopeful futures through education.

Website: <https://www.refugeesupportnetwork.org/>

Shelter

The logo for Shelter, featuring the word "Shelter" in a red, sans-serif font.

Before you leave care you're given a pathway plan setting out what support you might need to live independently. Leaving care to live on your own is a big step. Find out more about the housing options and extra help you can get if you are a young person leaving care.

Website: <https://www.shelter.org.uk/>

Siblings Together

The logo for Siblings Together, featuring the words "siblings together" in a black, handwritten-style font.

Siblings Together aim to help young people in care initiate and continue to have contact with their siblings, helping them to develop strong family bonds and above all achieve an independent and positive place in society supported by their sibling relationships.

Website: <http://siblingstogether.co.uk/>

The Capstone Care Leavers Trust

The logo for Capstone Care Leavers Trust, featuring three colorful blocks (green, blue, yellow) above the word "Capstone" in pink and "care leavers trust" in black below it.

The Capstone Care Leavers Trust (CCLT) awards grants to people aged 17-25 years who have been in Local Authority Care in England or Wales and are in need. The CCLT also offers advice and guidance to young people to help reduce their experience of social exclusion and enhance their life chances.

Website: <https://www.capstonecareleaverstrust.org/>

Turn2Us.org.uk



Turn2us is a national charity that helps people in financial hardship to gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and support services – online, by phone and face to face, through partner organisations and our volunteers.

Website: <https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>

Unite Foundation



These scholarships award students with free purpose-built Unite Students accommodation for three years of study, supporting them to succeed while knowing that they have a place to belong at university. Together with university partners and supporters, they make sure that their students have opportunities to thrive at university and beyond.

Website: <http://www.unitefoundation.co.uk/>

Contacts

If you have any questions or concerns you should contact one of the staff members listed below.

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[\(University term-time only\)](#)

Our offices are based in Fry (Ground Floor), Southwood Site at the Avery Hill Campus.

