

Scottish Attainment Challenge Care Experienced Children and Young People Fund Interventions Overview – Session 2019- 2020

Local Authority	West Dunbartonshire
Project Lead/Contact	Claire Cusick

Specific long term local authority outcomes identified for the Attainment Scotland Fund

- Increase attainment
- Reduce the poverty related attainment gap between SIMD 1+2 compared to SIMD 3-10
- Increase attendance and reduce exclusions in selected groups
- Reduce significant difference between achievement in literacy and numeracy
- Broaden engagement activities for children and young people
- WDC strategic outcomes:
 - A narrowing of the poverty related attainment gap for all children and young people in West Dunbartonshire
 - Improved outcomes for all learners in our community - with a priority on schools and Early Learning & Childcare Centres
 - Improved outcomes when creating and supporting positive destinations for our young people
 - More opportunities exist for involvement of our young citizens
 - Improved parental engagement across all schools

2. Care Experienced Children and Young People Workstreams

Workstreams:

Educational Services – MCR Pathways, Improve Interrupted Learners' outcomes

HSCP – Speech, Language and Communication Skills, Family Group Therapy, Comedy and Confidence, Homemakers

Youth Alliance -Champions Board – supporting engagement and involvement, Y-Sort It mentoring

Workstream:	Targeted cohort:	Rationale:
MCR Pathways	Care Experienced and vulnerable young people of secondary age.	To improve life chances and outcomes for care experienced young people of secondary school age with group and individual support programmes aimed at improving resilience, commitment, confidence and motivation. The service provides 1-1 mentoring opportunities which is school based. Our aim is to address the outcome gap between care-experienced young people and their peers and support young people in or on the edges of the care system to realise their full potential through education. MCR recruits, trains and matches each volunteer mentor with a young person.
Interrupted Learners' Outcomes	All care experienced children and young people	To improve involvement and engagement in education for Looked After children, young people and their carers leading to raised attainment, increased attendance and motivation. To establish and support schools, Children's House staff and educational establishments in identifying, developing and improving tracking and monitoring systems for involvement and engagement of care experienced pupils, not in education and lead the development of wide ranging opportunities for children, young people and their carers to be engaged and included in the lives of their schools and plan necessary supports required to do so.
Speech, language and communication skills	Care experienced and vulnerable 0-5 year olds	To narrow the vocabulary gap between care experienced and vulnerable children and their peers. To build capacity in parents and carers to develop and apply modelling skills in the home and community setting. This is a bespoke programme of work targeting children and families identified through attainment and engagement data; aimed at supporting and encouraging enhanced involvement and proven language development strategies.
Family Group Therapy	All care experienced children and young people	To provide and facilitate a family group conferencing approach. This methodology has been proven to be effective in reducing the numbers of children looked after away from home, while supporting families to identify their own strengths and draw on their own resources to support children and young people at risk of becoming looked after and accommodated.

Comedy and Confidence	Young people between 15-18 years of age struggling to maintain engagement with education and training or work placement	To improve young people's life chances by developing their communication skills and self confidence. This programme of intervention is targeted at young people currently struggling to attain relevant training, qualifications and opportunities. It supports development of a range of inter and intra -personal skills; leading to increased ability to improve outcomes and life chances.
Champions' Board- supporting engagement and involvement	All care experienced school aged children	This project aims to further develop liaison between carers, the Champions Board and Educational settings. It will develop and improve joined up approaches to improving engagement and involvement in the wider life of the school and community for care experienced children and young people. It will establish effective support partnerships and networks for carers with regards to accessing supports; enabling or continuing participation and involvement in the range of in and out of school wider experiences on offer.
Y-Sort It – mentoring service	Young people 12 plus who are Looked After at home	This programme provides weekly mentoring opportunities for those looked after at home. It aims to improve life chances by providing 1-1 relationship with a trusted adult. It supports the development of skills in establishing and maintaining relationships which might be challenging and builds confidence and ability to self regulate behaviour.
Homemakers	All children and young people Looked After at home.	This intervention will target cohorts where engagement with school, attendance and late-coming are impacting on attainment. Staff will plan with carers a package of homemaker support aimed at increasing above with a view to raising attainment, engagement and school experiences for the children.