

COVENTRY'S LOCAL OFFER FOR UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM SEEKING CHILDREN



INTRODUCTION

- This document tells you about the support that is on offer to you as a Coventry care leaver. This includes your entitlement to financial and practical support.
- It is important that you know there is support available to you whilst you are supported as a Care Leaver.
- The Through Care team wants to make sure that you feel supported and in order to do this - you should know where and who to go to for help/ advice.
- If you are an unaccompanied asylum seeking child, this document should be read alongside the Money Matters and Local Offer document.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

- To access PA (Personal Adviser) support and the entitlements listed below you must be a 'Former Relevant Care Leaver' (The Children and Social Work Act 2017). A former relevant care leaver is someone who has been in care for at least 13 weeks between the ages of 14 and 16 or they were in care for 13 weeks after their 16th Birthday.
- Alternatively, if you do not meet the above criteria and you were in care for a different period (as a child) you may be a qualifying care leaver. If this is the case, then you can contact the Through Care duty team for advice and guidance.
- If you are over 25 and a Coventry Care Leaver please do still make contact on the above number for advice and guidance.

If you are unsure on whether you meet this criteria, please contact the Through Care Team on 024 7678 7808 and ask for a member of the duty team.

ROLE OF THE PERSONAL ADVISER:

- Your Personal Adviser will support you from the age of 18 until the age of 21. They can also continue to support you from the age of 21 until 25 if you would like this.
- Your Personal Adviser will visit you wherever you are living regardless of whether you are in your own property or in accommodation funded by Social Care. They will do this every 2 months as a minimum up until the age of 21 and in line with your pathway plan post 21.

PATHWAY PLANNING:

- Personal Advisers support care leavers in preparing for independent living and will complete a pathway plan with you. This will set out what support you need and what your goals are for the future.
- Your pathway plan should be reviewed six monthly with you but will also be reviewed once you receive a decision on your asylum claim so you understand your options.
- Your pathway plan will focus on some of the areas listed below and your entitlements.

HOUSING:

- You will be able to access your SUHG (setting up home grant) until the age of 21 if you have Refugee status and up until the age of 25 if agreed within our pathway plan before you turn 21 years old.
- If you are claiming asylum or appealing a refusal, we will identify suitable accommodation for you and continue to fund this up until the age of 21 years.
- If you have received Refugee status or Humanitarian Protection, you are eligible for Housing and your Personal Adviser will support you in signing up for HomeFinder and obtaining your own property.
- If appropriate, Through Care's housing liaison officer should be invited to your pathway plan review – to provide advice on the options available to you once you have Refugee status or Humanitarian Protection.
- Your Personal Adviser will ensure you are supported to attend your asylum interviews and any other immigration appointments.
- When you receive Refugee status and Humanitarian Protection, you will have priority banding on Homefinder as a care leaver.

ALLOWANCES:

- You may be able to access a onetime clothing grant of up to £100 to ensure you have appropriate and sufficient clothing for the weather when you first come into local authority care.
- You will be provided with a basic smart phone when you first come into local authority care so that professionals can keep in contact with you and to enable you to use other essential programmes such as translation apps and maps.
- You may be entitled to your savings that were accrued when you were a child looked after and if so you will be supported to access these by your Personal Adviser.

EDUCATION/ EMPLOYMENT

- You may be referred to the Through Care Education and Employment Panel. This is to support you in exploring employment/education opportunities when you first come into local authority care.
- You may be able to access 6 months free internet via the National Databank once you are 18 years old to support you in exploring education/employment opportunities.



IDENTIFICATION

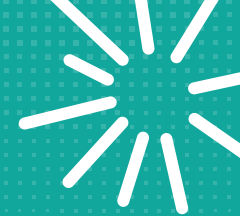
- Your Personal Adviser will support you in applying for photo ID if you are granted Refugee status or Humanitarian Protection and this will be funded under your Money Matters entitlement e.g. a driving license or travel document.

FAMILY

- We may support you having contact with your family up until the age of 21. This would need to be discussed with your Personal Adviser and part of your pathway planning.
- Your Personal Adviser will also ensure that you are referred to Family Tracing service to try and locate family members if this is something you consent to.

HEALTH

- If you need some extra support when you are in the community and have presenting care and support needs. An Adult Social Care (ASC) referral may be submitted by your Personal Adviser and your consent would be sought.



HELP

SUPPORT

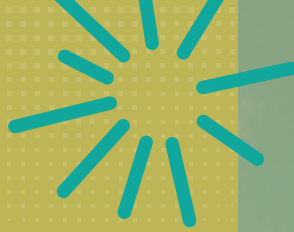
ADVICE

GUIDANCE

ASSISTANCE

INFO

USEFUL CONTACTS:



YOUR PA

Name:

Number:

Email:

THROUGH CARE

024 7678 7808

DutyThroughCare@coventry.gov.uk

COVENTRY REFUGEE AND MIGRANT CENTRE

02476 227254

info@covrefugee.org

NORTON HOUSE

Bird Street, Coventry CV1 5FX

POSITIVE YOUTH FOUNDATION

024 7615 8550

THE TECHNO CENTRE

University Technology Park
Puma Way, Coventry CV1 2TT

REFUGEE COUNCIL

02073461134

children@refugeecouncil.org.uk

Hello!



“

IF YOU ARE OVER THE AGE OF 25, YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO CONTACT THE THROUGH CARE SERVICE ON THE NUMBER LISTED ABOVE FOR ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

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