



Corporate Parenting Plan 2024-2027

Easy to read summary for young people
and their carers and parents



Who we are

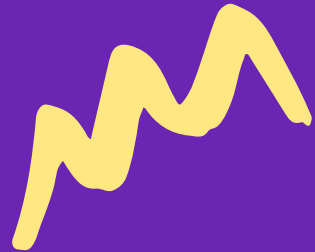
We are Scotland's skills agency, and we provide the national all-age career service. You might know Skills Development Scotland (SDS) from the careers adviser in your school or through using the My World of Work website. We also run Scotland's system of apprenticeships, and we work with employers to learn how the world of work is changing and what skills are needed now and in the future.

We are one of Scotland's corporate parents. This means it is part of our job to provide support to young people who are Care Experienced and who need more help.

Who is Care Experienced?

At SDS, when we say Care Experienced, we mean anyone who is in care now or who has been at any time in their lives. They might live:

- with foster carers
- at home with birth parents
- in a children's home
- with other family members
- in secure care
- or on their own with help.



What is a Corporate Parent?

The Scottish Government created a law called the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. This Act tells us to give extra help to Care Experienced young people who need it and to work with other corporate parents. As we do this, we are guided by the Scottish Government's "Promise", that every Care Experienced person grows up safe, loved and respected.

The Act tells us to think about the needs of Care Experienced people and to look for ways to improve what we do, making our help easy to find and to use. Our role as corporate parents is to improve the wellbeing of Care Experienced children and young people. The key question we ask ourselves when designing services or opportunities as a corporate parent is "Would this be good enough for my child or young person in my life?"

The Act tells us to make a plan so everyone knows how we will do this, and that is our Corporate Parenting Plan 2024-2027.



What is in our Corporate Parenting Plan 2024-2027?

We want to be the best corporate parent we can be. In our Corporate Parenting Plan, we promised Care Experienced people we would:

- 1.** Listen to and act on what Care Experienced people tell us to make sure our services meet their needs.

We will listen to those views and use this information to improve our services.

- 2.** Promote the interests of Care Experienced people by supporting everyone who works for SDS to be caring, active and responsible corporate parents.

We will support everyone who works for SDS to understand how they can better support Care Experienced customers. We will regularly check to make sure we are taking the actions agreed to make this plan happen.

- 3.** Support Care Experienced people as they move on in their careers by working with other corporate parents and the wider Care Experienced community.

We will work with other organisations like us that support Care Experienced people to make services easier to use. The people who work for SDS will speak up for Care Experienced people and talk to others so they get the help they need. That is, partners that support Care Experienced people. To make our services easier to use for you. Our staff will speak up for you, talking to others to get the support and help you need as you move along your career journey.

We want to make things even better. That could mean changes to how we provide careers services, or working even more closely with other corporate parents or organisations.



How we made this plan



- We talked to Care Experienced young people in groups and individually.
- We asked questions in our surveys including "Pupil Voice" and "Apprentice voice".
- We talked to people from groups that work with Care Experienced people.
- We talked to our staff.
- We took information from many reports.

**Find
out
more**

To find out how we can help you or to tell us how we can improve, please get in touch. You can contact your school careers adviser or someone at your local SDS centre - click [here](#) to find your local centre.

If you want to read the full plan with more information, then please click onto this link [SDS Corporate Parenting Plan](#).



If you want more information, please email us at diversity@sds.co.uk

Visit [Scottish Apprenticeships](#) for more information or talk to your careers adviser.

