

Top Tips for Good Corporate Parenting

1) Know a Child / Young Person's Story

Understand why your Child / Young Person is in care from the file and also their story when you meet them.

Statutory process this is linked to: Case summary, Chronology.

2) Care History

Understand their care history, placements, and current placement; ie who are the other children/young people in placement, are there any risks? Dynamics.

Statutory process this links to: Chronology, Placement planning meeting, and CLA reviews.

3) Family/Contact

Understanding their birth family is important to them, who they have contact with – is there anyone they are not allowed to see? Contact plan as part of care plan, the venue of contact/ visits/ supervised or unsupervised needs to be thought through.

Statutory process this links to: Family tree, Eco maps, Chronology, Placement Planning Meetings, Life story work.

4) Purpose

Visit regularly and understand why you are visiting your children.

Statutory process this links to: Statutory visits, progression and review of their care plan, ensuring the placement is suitable and meeting their needs. Do they have new clothes, IT equipment, pocket money, varied diet, etc?

5) Assess and Plan

What is the plan, going home, staying in placement until adulthood?

Do an assessment to ensure this plan remains relevant.

Statutory process this links to: Care plans, undertaking an assessment each year on CIOC to see if the care plan is still relevant.

6) Ambition

Have ambition for your children / young people.

Education, hobbies, friends, wishes/wants.

Statutory process this links to: Care plans, PEPs, PEPSA funding, ensuring this is utilised, recording achievements, identifying their skills and interests. Challenging.

7) Voice of the Child / Young Person, their 'Lived Experience'

Understand and listen to what your child feel/want and evidence this, also who is your child close to, ie teacher? Look at the best holistic way of obtaining the voice of the child/young person.

Statutory process this links to: My Goals document, purposeful statutory visits, participation in CLA reviews, PEPs, etc, case summaries, identity and diversity, statutory visit forms.

8) Visit

See your children on their own, take them out, do unannounced visits on occasion see what their everyday environment is like unstaged. Think about the purpose of the visit and what needs to be achieved.

Statutory process this links to: Direct tools, see participation toolkit, consultation processes for CLA reviews, statutory visit forms and how you record these, progression of the care plan.

9) Multi Agency and Partnership Working

Other agencies have information about your child/young person, their history, likes and dislikes, risks. They may see them every day, they will have education and health information which assists you in building up a picture of what needs they may have and what the plan of care needs to be

Statutory process this links to: Aspirations, diversity, identity issues, needs assessment ie what are the gaps

10) Know your Resources, Support and Community

Know what is there for your children/young people that may benefit them.

Statutory process this links to: Children's rights/advocates, volunteering and mentoring, children in care council, LGBT support, male role models, identity and diversity.

11) Child/Adolescent Development

Understand your child's history and child/adolescent development.

Statutory process this links to: Linking neglect to brain development, effects of early abuse on this, understanding adolescent risk taking, brain development, keeping safe on line and in the community, risk of CSE? Link to PEP and educational attainment, the care plan.

12) Identity and Diversity

Be aware of specific issues, special educational needs, criminality, transgender, sexuality, cultural and ensure this is acknowledged in care plans.

Statutory process this links to: Care plans, statutory visits how and when these are undertaken, placement planning and matching.