

RCS Corporate Parenting Action Plan for 2021-2024

Recommendation

1	Be ALERT to matters which could adversely affect the wellbeing of care experienced and estranged young people (CE&E YP)				
Understand and assess					
Action	Outputs/Impacts	Lead	Milestones	Annual Monitoring/Evaluation	Progress
Keep informed about issues affecting CE&E YP	RCS keeps up to date with best practice approaches to supporting CE&E YP and provides a better service and experience	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Retain membership of local and national groups for CE&E YP such as <i>The West of Scotland Care Leavers' Forum and Stand Alone</i> Draw on sector/organisational good practice to inform RCS practice and policy such as <i>Who Cares?</i> and <i>CELCIS</i>	Collate list of partnerships, links and associated activities Report on impact of key links	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024
Engage with CE&E YP 1:1 and in group settings	RCS understands, responds to and supports CE&E YP and therefore provides an improved service and experience	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Hold a minimum of 2 CE&E YP Focus Groups a year Provide drop in support for UG CE&E YP with named contacts Provide targeted 1:1 support for CE&E Transitions students	Participation monitored and evaluated Changes documented and evaluated	2021-2022
					2022-2023

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			Provide application to offer support for CE&E YP who are not Transitions students		2023-2024
Engage with research and knowledge exchange about issues affecting CE&E YP	RCS draws on evidence informed research and practice about lived experiences of CE&E YP as well as sector approaches to supporting CE&E YP. This knowledge will help provide a better service and experience	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Retain membership of the Scottish Community of Access and Participation Practitioners Uptake training opportunities for key staff as they arise	Report on impact of sector research and knowledge exchange	2021-2022
				Report on impact of any training	2022-2023
					2023-2024
2	ASSESS the needs of care experienced and estranged young people for services and support				
Understand and assess					
Action	Outputs/Impacts	Lead	Milestones	Annual Monitoring/Evaluation	Progress
Identify and assess the individual needs of CE&E YP	RCS is able to provide a tailored approach for individual CE&E YP	Admissions Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Identify UG CE&E YP through UCAS and self-identification	Numbers and types of support monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
			Identify Pre-HE CE&E YP through application and self-identification to our Transitions/Juniors/Short Courses programmes		2022-2023
			Flag and contact CE&E YP to advise/offer support that includes access to		2023-2024

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			wellbeing/financial/disability services and a range of online, F2F and phone communication.		
Identify and assess the <u>group</u> needs of CE&E YP	RCS is able to provide a tailored approach for CE&E YP groups	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Identify and assess UG & Pre-HE CE&E YP needs through dedicated the 2 dedicated Focus Groups	Trends monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024
Respond to the needs of CE&E YP	RCS is able to respond to the needs of CE&E because they have listened to and valued the individual and group needs of CE&E YP	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Respond to the identified needs of individual and group CE&E YP through a range of approaches that could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare support • Mental health support • Individual learning plans • Social support • Paid Employment • Collaborative Project 	Support and impact monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024

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3 PROMOTE the interests of care experienced and estranged young people					
Promote and provide					
Action	Outputs/Impacts	Lead	Milestones	Annual Monitoring/Evaluation	Progress
Widen Access to Performing Arts Education for CE&E YP	RCS continues to support strong numbers of CE&E YP on its pre-HE programmes and outreach initiatives RCS increases the number of potential offers for CE&E YP for UG Applicants	CSMT Fair Access Team Admissions	A minimum of 1 CE&E YP outreach project per year A minimum of 10% of the Transitions cohort are CE&E YP RCS sets a target of 2 CE&E YP students offers each academic year	Impact of outreach project evaluated Transitions recruitment and progression monitored and evaluated UG Applicants to matriculation are monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024
Remove barriers to study for CE&E YP	CE&E YP face fewer barriers to study at RCS	CSMT Fair Access Team Admissions	Contextualised Admissions process is reviewed annually Contextualised admissions process is accessible for all users (students, audition panels, RCS staff)	Changes, revisions of policy and new initiatives are reported on Training undertaken is reported on	2021-2022

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			<p>Bursaries/Scholarships for CE&E YP are identified</p> <p>Support for accommodation, bursaries/scholarships, welfare is regularly reviewed</p> <p>Key staff undertake/update Corporate Parenting training and keep up to date with funding changes</p> <p>Messaging around corporate parenting is made clearer (e.g. providing a young person's guide on the website)</p>		2022-2023
					2023-2024

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4	Seek to provide OPPORTUNITIES to participate in activities designed to promote wellbeing				
Promote and provide					
Action	Outputs/Impacts	Lead	Milestones	Annual Monitoring/Evaluation	Progress
Provide a range of opportunities for CE&E YP to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors	CE&E YP at RCS are able to identify their strengths and areas for improvements CE&E YP at RCS are able to access learning support if they require it	Fair Access Team	All CE&E YP on Transitions undertake life coaching and have a learning agreement All CE&E YP on UG programmes are offered life coaching and access to learning support A range of opportunities for UG CE&E YP to engage in projects, training and paid work to support their ongoing skills for work needs A range of workshops and activities to develop transferrable skills will be embedded into the Transitions programme	Impact of coaching evaluated Impact of UG opportunities and Transitions transferrable skills evaluated Access to learning support monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024

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Improve wellbeing support for CE&E YP	CE&E YP know how to access high quality wellbeing support RCS provides targeted support for CE&E YP	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team Student Union	Signposting for UG student support is provided at pre-induction, induction and during studies UG CE&E YP and Transitions students are offered regular meetings with named contacts/Wellbeing team Fincial support and advice for CE&E YP is given priority Student Union provides independent advice and guidance	Uptake of support monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024

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5 Take ACTION to help eligible young people to access opportunities and make use of services					
Promote and provide					
Action	Outputs/Impacts	Lead	Milestones	Annual Monitoring/Evaluation	Progress
Help CE&E YP to overcome barriers to participation	CE&E YP at RCS are able to participate more equally in programmes easily	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	The Transitions programme holds 10% of places for CE&E YP	Transitions CE&E YP numbers and retention monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
			Pre-HE Fair Access activity is reviewed and developed in consultation with CE&E YP	Development of pre-HE activity is reported on to the Fair Access Committee	2022-2023
			Tailored support is offered for UG CE&E YP Applicants	Uptake of support is monitored (inclusive of funding awarded)	2023-2024
			CE&E YP are given priority and offered support to apply for discretionary funding	Partnership work is monitored and evaluated	
			Work with partners such as Who Cares? Scotland and other HEIs to ensure support is suitable for CE&E YP		
Provide services and support to help CE&E YP engage	CE&E YP at RCS are able to access services easily	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Information about services for CE&E YP are kept up to date on our websites and portals	Quarterly monitoring and updating of webpages	2021-2022

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			Mar-Comms plan is put in place to signpost support, advice and guidance	Effectiveness of mar-Comms activity is monitored	2022-2023
			Specialised Advice and Guidance for CE&E YP is reviewed annually	Reviewed twice yearly at Focus groups and reported on	2023-2024
			A range of opportunities for CE&E YP are made available on a rolling basis	Regular support (e.g. welfare and additional opportunities (e.g. employment) are monitored and reported on	

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6 COLLABORATE with other Corporate Parents					
Collaborate and improve					
Action	Outputs/Impacts	Lead	Milestones	Monitoring/Evaluation	Progress
Share information, offer advice and coordinate activity	RCS shares information with other corporate parents to inform best practices to supporting CE&E YP	Named Contacts and Fair Access Team	Retain membership of local and national groups for CE&E YP such as <i>The West of Scotland Care Leavers' Forum and Stand Alone</i>	Collate list of partnerships, links and associated activities	2021-2022
	RCS provides better advice and guidance for CE&E YP		Draw on sector/organisational good practice to inform RCS practice and policy such as <i>Who Cares?</i> and <i>CELCIS</i>	Report on impact of key links Report on changes to corporate parenting practice as a result of collaboration	2022-2023
	RCS streamlines and improves activity related to corporate parenting		A more focussed range of opportunities is developed for		2023-2024

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7	Take action to IMPROVE the way we function as a corporate parent in relation to care experienced and estranged young people				
Collaborate and improve					
Action	Outputs/Impacts	Lead	Milestones	Annual Monitoring/Evaluation	Progress
Review and evaluate the progress Corporate Parenting in relation to our Fair Access Plan	RCS ensures that their Corporate Parenting responsibilities are reviewed, evaluated and reported on via The Fair Access Committee to the Academic Board and Board of Governors	Fair Access Manager	Corporate Parenting update report prepared for the Fair Access Committee	Report prepared for the May Fair Access Committee	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024
Include and respond to the voices of CE&E YP	RCS ensures that their Corporate Parenting responsibilities are shaped by CE&E YP	Fair Access Manager	Hold a minimum of 2 CE&E YP Focus Groups a year	Participation monitored and evaluated	2021-2022
				Changes documented and evaluated	2022-2023
					2023-2024

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Share best practice with other Corporate Parents	RCS shares best practice with other corporate parents to ensure we provide the best possible corporate parenting we can	Named Contacts Fair Access Team	Use reflective practice to continually develop our Corporate Parenting approaches	Report on changes to corporate parenting practice as a result of sharing best practice	2021-2022
					2022-2023
					2023-2024

Targets Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) reported on annually

1. Number of care experienced students achieving places on a range of full-time and part-time courses increases
2. Number of care experienced students progressing from Pre-HE to undergraduate increases
3. Withdrawal rates for care experienced students remain low or decreases
4. Percentage of care experienced learners achieving a range qualification up to and including degree/post-graduate level increases
5. The receipt of ongoing positive feedback from care experienced learners both during their course and after graduation
6. Positive feedback from partner organisations regarding the ongoing positive outcomes for care experienced learners
7. Care experienced students' progress to positive destinations in further study and/or employment