



Volume 2, Issue 2

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Introducing the Corpor8 Crew

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The Corpor8 Crew

Corporate Parenting
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This newsletter is brought to you by the Corpor8 Crew. We've been meeting every two weeks since August. Once a month we have a meeting just a Corpor8 Crew and at this one we look at the individual funding scheme – see who's eligible. We make decisions on where and how this money is spent. Depending on the amount of information you give is how fast we can actually get the job done – sometimes we need more information before we can decide. Confidentiality is an issue we take very seriously



The other time we meet, it's with the Corporate Parenting Team for a team meeting where we look at the bigger, wider and broader issues about young people in care.

Corpor8 Crew

(Steph, Becky, Jason, Hannah)

A pen picture

Jason is : **Joker**
Ambitious
Speaks his mind
Oh, and he's a
Nice, normal guy



Hannah remains quiet throughout meetings but when she speaks it is meaningful. She is a pleasant member of the group and a valued one too. I enjoy being with Hannah. She has interesting and perceptive views.

Steph is :

- a pleasure to work with, it's nice to see a young person involved she's fun
- bouncy
- very mature for her age
- likes to get involved in all activities

Becky is a very intelligent person. She seems to have a lot of ideas for the Corpor8.crew. She is a lovely person to work with.

Problems?



"I am 14 years old and in foster care. I am very unhappy. How can I complain and how can I make people take me seriously?"

Then say how these things make you feel, and what has to be done to make it right.

Jason says " you can write about it. The best thing to do is to get lots of evidence and facts about why you are unhappy and write them down.

Elaine Constable is our Childrens Rights Officer and she will be able to help if you need to know more.
(01530) 513817

Kirsty's Day out (as LCFC mascot)

I'm going on Leicester Citys football pitch with Matt Elliot holding my hand,
 Wow!, I'm really looking forward to this
 I've already had my picture taken with my favourite player Paul Dickov who is really great
 I had to wait hours
 And then when that person came
 Remembered that she didn't have the football kit
 So she went back and got the kit
 I got changed, put the kit on
 Had my picture taken
 She explained what I would do
 I even get a four course with it
 And guess who with?
 Leicester City Football Players
 And I went home



By Kirsty aged 11

(If you've got a poem or a story that you'd like others to read—send it in to us!)

T2W (Teenagers to Work)

In my time at County Hall I enjoyed both placements very much. Both placements seem to make me more aware of what work is really about. I was also pleased to receive an invitation to the Celebration of Achievement event just to find out that it was the one that I made when I was on work experience.

Steph



(If you did a work placement this year and would like to tell others about it, write to the Corpor8 Crew /Corporate Parenting)

Celebration Events



All the Corpor8 crew went to work at both events – both in half term, one for under 12's and one for 12 and over. It was an enjoyable experience and good to see a lot of people getting involved and a lot of people achieving their goals.

Steph said "I didn't think that the entertainment would be that good, but really enjoyed the bungee run and magicians – both things got a good response from all the people that attended the event"

The Crew also managed to meet with councillors and the Chair of the Leicestershire County Council. One of the councillors, Roger Miller who is the Deputy Leader, said he would be interested to meet with any young people who would like to see County Hall and meet with councillors. This was one of a lot of good things that came as a result of the events.

The Crew all thought the event was good but what did you think? Do you have any really good ideas for next times event? Write to us and let us know!!

Blueprint Project



Thanks to everyone who took part in the Blueprint Project. A group of us (Gemma, Nicola, Rachel, Becki and Dan) interviewed young people in care and we've now got the results. The things you said were really useful and as a result, Social Services is going to do some things differently. We talked to Flick (the Assistant Director) and other managers and they've agreed to

- do an information sheet about each foster carer or home so young people can see this before they go and live somewhere.
- rip up the old consultation papers we get before reviews and let us design some new ones

Funding requests



If you have a hobby or interest or sport you're into – or even something you've never tried but want to have a go at, we might be able to help. We know it can be expensive to pay for lessons or bits of kit so we've got a special 'pot' of money just for things like this. If you need something you can either

- get the form enclosed with this newsletter – fill it in and send it back to us
- ask your carer to fill it in or help you to fill it in
- ask your social worker to do the application

The info is passed onto the Corporate Crew who make the decisions – but don't worry – we take your name and address off first.

And we'll let you know what they decide within 2 weeks

WWW.....



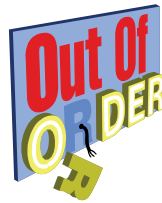
“ I was asked to design a web page for the Corporate Parenting Team over the summer. I included in it info such as forthcoming events, ages when you can do things, Children's rights and an explanation about some of the 'jargon' that gets used when young people are in care.

It was an interesting experience. If you want to know more (and are on the internet) why don't you visit the site yourself. You can get to it by typing in the address bar: www.leics.gov.uk/socialservices/childrenandfamilies/lookedafter

If you want to write anything for this newsletter or the webpage – let us know

Jason

Trading Standards



So, you want to get your money back/ask for a repair/get a replacement?

Their advisers will listen to your problem and give you advice on what your rights are, and what to do next. You might be entitled to a replacement, repair or refund.

Do you want to take the goods back yourself but need information to give you confidence?

They also have someone who may be able to get involved when the trader refuses to listen to you.

Is the trader refusing to listen to you?

Perhaps the easiest way to decide what you want is to find out what your rights are.

If you ring them on (0116) 2657979 and ask for the Youth Support Team you will be passed to an adviser who can tell you your rights and send you out information.

When you buy goods you have rights when they go wrong—there are places you can go for help.

As well as ringing them you could email them: trading-standards@leics.gov.uk You will need to make it clear you need the Youth Support Team

Try giving the Leicestershire Trading Standards a call. We have a Youth Support Team who are there to make sure you get the advice you need so you can approach the shop with confidence.

Want to learn to drive?

Don't forget if you're 17 we can help you learn to drive by

- paying for your licence
- paying for your written and practical tests
- paying for half of your lessons



PC Scheme

Are you aged 11 or over?
Got loads of homework to do?
No PC to do it on?
Get your carer to talk to
Corporate Parenting



They can get you one!