



SOUTH EAST NEWS LETTER ISSUE 1 SUMMER 2015

“There has been so much going on at The Leaving Care Company over the last few months especially in the South East that we thought it would be a good idea to send you an update of the exciting new developments in this region. Especially as they are helping us to provide alternative and individual accommodation options and support services for high risk and vulnerable young people aged 16 plus, who require assistance in developing independent living skills”

MANDY WHYATT, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE LEAVING CARE COMPANY



WELCOME TO THE TEAM...

RHYS OWEN
HEAD OF SERVICE IN THE SOUTH

Rhys joined The Leaving Care Company last year and has over 10 years of experience of working with young people with complex needs. His role is to manage the teams across the South of the country and ensure that all the teams are implementing The Leaving Care Company Standards so that the best possible outcome for the young people we support can be achieved.



JANINA HIBBLE
TEAM MANAGER FOR THE SOUTH EAST

Janina has worked for our sister company Aspirations in the South East Region for over 3 years now and came over to join The Leaving Care Team in March this year. We are delighted to have Janina on board especially as she comes to us with over 18 years of experience of working in the care sector with young people. Janina started her career working with the top 5% of children with behavioural problems in the country, so her skill sets invaluable in helping her and her team provide support.



NEW DEVELOPMENTS...

- THE LEAVING CARE STANDARDS: OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS WE HAVE DEVELOPED A SET OF STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND PREDICTED OUTCOMES DRAWING ON OUR EXPERIENCE;
- in listening to the young person
- of service delivery
- of the underpinning legislation and practice guidance

These standards are part of a process of on-going development by The Leaving Care Company in line with an overarching commitment to improving the life changes and prospects for all young people who receive our support and they are based on the key principles of the Every Child Matters Framework (2003).

The Leaving Care Company's Standards, set a baseline of good practice and help to guide our assessment and decision-making process on what we deem to be successful outcomes. In turn they subsequently help to design our individual support packages.

In addition to the standards we also provide Local Authorities with a quarterly monitoring audit, this will include provision of achieved outcomes in relation to the young people we work with, such as training/education or employment status, registration of all health professionals within a week of placement start. We also provide information on staff and training completed alongside their DBS information.

THESE STANDARDS ARE PART OF A PROCESS OF SERVICE DEVELOPMENT BY ASPIRATIONS – THE LEAVING CARE COMPANY IN LINE WITH AN OVERARCHING COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING THE LIFE CHANGES AND PROSPECTS FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE OUR SUPPORT.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS (CONTINUED...)

• THE LEAVING CARE EDUCATION PROGRAMME: LAST DECEMBER THE LEAVING CARE COMPANY WAS DELIGHTED TO WELCOME JULIE EDMONDS ON BOARD AS THE EDUCATION LEAD FOR THE SOUTH. JULIE WHO IS A TEACHER BY PROFESSION JOINED THE TEAM TO SHARE HER KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE RE-ENGAGE IN EDUCATION. JULIE HAS HELPED DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT THE LEAVING CARE COMPANY EDUCATION PROGRAMME. THE 12 WEEK PROGRAMME WHICH RUNS EVERY FORTNIGHT FOR 2 HOURS PER SESSION PROVIDES THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ENGAGE WITH IT (THE YOUNG PEOPLE DO RECEIVE A £5 VOUCHER FOR EVERY SESSION THEY ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN);

- The opportunity to improve their Maths and English skills
- Assistance in searching for jobs, apprenticeships or other further education opportunities
- Help in writing a CV and covering letters
- Training in interview skills
- The opportunity to complete online Health & Safety training to add to their CV

Julie and the team's main aim is by getting the young people to re-engage with education they will provide them with the relevant skills to help improve their employability as well as guiding them on how to successfully enter the job market.

For more information on the programme please visit

WWW.ASPIRATIONS.CARE.COM/HOW-WE-SUPPORT/EDUCATION-FOR-YOUNG-PEOPLE-WHO-ARE-LEAVING-CARE



SO HOW CAN WE HELP YOU

THE LEAVING CARE COMPANY WORKS CLOSELY WITH:

- Social Workers
- Personal Advisors
- Safeguarding Practitioners
- YOT's
- Substance Misuse Services
- GMap Project Workers

TO SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE WHO MAY BE:

- Looked After Children who are leaving care
- Currently in custody
- Under a Sexual Offences Prevention Order (Sopa)
- Classified as homeless
- Seeking asylum
- Parents with babies
- Currently in hospital undergoing mental health assessments

THE LEAVING CARE COMPANY'S INDIVIDUALIZED PROGRAMMES:

- Working with the Aspirations' Children's Residential Team to provide a smooth and consistent transition for a young person going through the "moving on process" once they reach 16 years into one of our "leaving care placements".
- Bespoke, long term housing provision for each young person in an area of choice which where possible they can take over the tenancy
- Packages of accommodation and/or support for parent and child
- Early intervention family support work in the family's homes to prevent progression into the care system.
- Early release planned placements for young people in custody who have an imminent release date.
- Specialist housing and tenancy advice/management with post 18 parallel planning which includes help in completing applications and applying for benefits, also access to any local housing associations as a contingency plan in the long term.
- From 10 to 24 hour support and accommodation options available with phased hourly reduction plans implemented.

OUR YOUNG ACHIEVERS

The Leaving Care Company Teams have helped an number of young people we have supported achieve some fantastic outcomes this year and we could not be prouder of both them and the young people. Here are to name but a few which just goes to show with the right support young people who have been in the care system can succeed;



Miss CB has got has gained a place at college to study Health and Social care course, with the aim to go on to study midwifery.

Mr RW completed Princes Trust course.

Mr LK was employee of the month.

The Leaving Care Company does hope you have enjoyed catching up on our news. If you would like any further information or would like to discuss a referral please

EMAIL JOBARRETT@THELEAVINGCARECOMPANY.CO.UK or call our REFERRAL LINE ON 0800 044 3255

Best Wishes, Mandy



MANDY WHYATT

