Leaving Care Project Overview for Fostering Newsletter

As part of Nottinghamshire county and district councils' commitment to the Leaving Care Local Offer, published in April 2019, we are developing a Work Experience Readiness and Knowledge (WERK) Programme, which will be one of our key initiatives for supporting our looked after children and care leavers into training and job opportunities.

 The WERK programme will be available to all our 16/17-year-old looked after children and will consist of a bespoke 2-day 'Care to Work' programme where attendees will engage in work experience preparatory training in order to fill them with the level of confidence and basic skills required to undertake meaningful work experience placements. Such placements will form the second part of the WERK programme and will be arranged with local businesses aligned where possible to the young people's preference. The pilot of the WERK programme is scheduled to commence with the first cohort of young people in December at Vision West Notts College, with wider roll out throughout the year to our entire cohort that are beginning their transition to leaving care, whether they be in education, employment or training or not. Please do actively encourage your children to take up this offer of support as it becomes available to them.

We are also very excited to announce the developments of an App for care leavers which will be launched in January 2020. This App is being developed in consultation with care leavers and will be another vehicle to provide care leavers with all the important information, advice and guidance of Nottinghamshire's Local Offer in addition to providing key details and contacts with regards to 'offers' provided by businesses and organisations. This App has been designed to work without the need to rely on internet connection meaning our young people can access the important information on a 24/7 basis.

If you require any more information, please talk to the young person's allocated PA or social worker.

December 2019