



PLANT YNG NGHYMRU
CHILDREN IN WALES

Children in Wales

Our Pledge to Care Experienced children¹

For over 30 years, Children in Wales has been a steadfast advocate for the rights of babies, children and young people. Our vision is to build a Wales where all babies, children and young people have their rights fulfilled and the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child is fully realised. As the national umbrella body championing children's issues in Wales, we work with our members and partners to build networks, capacity and expertise to deliver better policy, practice and equitable services that reflect the rights, needs and aspirations of babies, children and young people.

Throughout this period, we have campaigned to ensure that all children, including those most vulnerable due to their characteristics or circumstances, have an equal opportunity to thrive and to prosper, and be able to access the services and support they may need. A core part of our work includes a commitment to protect and advocate for the rights of care experienced children, including children in care, and to provide opportunities to listen to and amplify their voices to better inform our priorities and decisions which will affect them.

Our Commitment

Children in Wales is committed to providing opportunities which advance the rights of care experienced babies, children and young people through our existing priorities and services, informed by our vision and objectives set out in our [Five-year Strategy](#) (2025-30). As a national charity, we fully support the ambition for a shared responsibility to be a corporate parent for care experienced children, and will demonstrate our contribution through the following actions:

1. The term 'Children' includes care-experienced babies, children and young people.

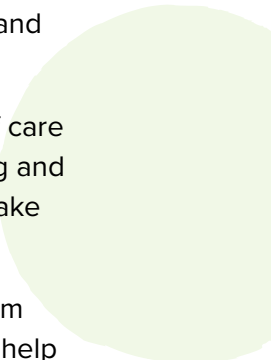


Ensure the voice of care-experienced children is at the heart of our participation services

1. We will facilitate the direct involvement of care experienced children in our participation programmes through their engagement in helping to shape policy and decisions that affect them. Examples of which include:
 - i. Our [Young Wales](#) programme which is about listening to young people & empowering their voices, built on the ideas of sharing, informing and changing. We facilitate opportunities for care experienced children and other young people to raise issues that are important to them, to ensure that their voices are heard by decision makers including Welsh Government officials and Ministers. Opportunities we provide include being involved in thematic advisory groups, policy consultations, residentials and events.
 - ii. Our [Getting Ready Project](#) empowers care-experienced children by enhancing their knowledge and understanding of their rights and entitlements when safely transitioning from care.
2. We will provide opportunities for care-experienced children to enhance their future employment prospects. For example, we have recruited a young person to help develop resources as part of the [Getting Ready Project](#).
3. We will enable care-experienced children to have their voices heard thorough our programmes and project work. By working with our members and partners, we will ensure that care-experience children are listened to and have an opportunity to be involved in project advisory groups and consultation exercises to help shape programme delivery.

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Ensure the voice of care-experienced children is at the heart of our training services

1. We will design and deliver our [professional training and development programme](#) with the rights and needs of care-experienced children at the centre. This will include delivering tailored training and workshops to organisations and carers working directly with care-experienced children, as well as a broad range of other professionals and sectors to raise awareness and understanding of the issues, legislation and policy impacting on care-experience children.
 2. We will give full consideration to the rights and needs of care experienced children across the full range of our training and development programme, ensuring that all topic areas take account of their situations and circumstances.
 3. We will utilise case studies, quotes and contributions from care-experienced children in our training programme to help amplify their voices.
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Ensure the voice of care-experienced children is at the heart of our influencing services

1. We will ensure that the issues which impact on the rights and needs of care-experienced children of all ages, as well as their priorities for change, are reflected throughout our policy influencing and advocacy work with decision makers.
2. We will maintain active attendance on decision making forums and working groups established to further the rights of care experienced children. This includes our facilitation of the [All-Wales C&YPs Advocacy Providers Group](#), and our representation on the Welsh Government's Corporate Parenting Implementation Group, Transformation of Children's Services Delivery Group and National Delivery Group for the Education of children in care.
3. We will ensure that our publications and resources take account of the rights and needs of care-experience children and include specific recommendations for improving outcomes. For example, our Champions for Children [Manifesto](#) released ahead of the Senedd 2026 election.

Ensure the voice of care-experienced children is at the heart of our communication and information services

1. We will ensure that all communication for care-experienced children is clear, accessible and jargon-free.
2. We will provide opportunities for care experienced children as well as our member services and partners which support them, to contribute to our publications. This includes our quarterly Children in Wales magazine.
3. We will ensure that care-experienced children are appropriately signposted to our member services which provide independent advocacy, help, advice or support.

Ensure the voice of care-experienced children is at the heart of our IRM Cymru service

1. We will ensure that our [Independent Review Panel](#) mechanism takes a rights-based approach to reviewing decisions not to approve a foster carer or adopter.