

Students

What is a Care Leaver?

"The legal definition of a care leaver is a person who has been in care for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14, including some point at the age of 16 or 17.

Most institutions offer support for care leavers, but some institutions also offer support to 'care-experienced' students who have experience of care but who are not covered by this definition." Quoted from <https://www.propel.org.uk/UK/>.

Is Higher Education for me?

Top 10 reasons for care leavers to go to uni found here:

<https://www.propel.org.uk/uk/is-higher-education-for-me/>

(Might be worth writing this on the page rather than directing students away from website all the time– thoughts?)

Really interesting factsheet about how to aim for HE:

https://www.becomecharity.org.uk/media/1685/factsheet_english_upp_final_v2.pdf

Factsheet on Pathway Plan every Care Leaver should have:

https://www.becomecharity.org.uk/media/1414/factsheet3_pathway_plans_english.pdf

UCAS advice for Care Leavers:

<https://www.ucas.com/advisers/toolkits/supporting-care-leavers-toolkit>

(The Quality Mark is now closed but care leavers looking for information about higher education should visit <https://www.becomecharity.org.uk/for-professionals/propel/> and

<https://www.propel.org.uk/UK/>)

(Video can be embedded)

What do universities do for Care Leavers?

Many universities offer support for Care Leavers such as having a specific Care Leaver adviser who can offer advice and link to a Care Leavers Network. Financial and accommodation support is often provided as well such as extra bursaries to help fund living costs during the holidays.

Examples:

Bristol University - <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/care-leavers/>

Winchester University King Alfred Scholarship for Care Leavers -

<https://www.winchester.ac.uk/accommodation-and-winchester-life/scholarships-bursaries-and-awards/undergraduate-scholarships-bursaries-and-awards/king-alfred-scholarship-for-care-leavers/>

Bath Spa University - <https://www.bathspa.ac.uk/students/student-wellbeing-services/care-leavers/>

UNITE Foundation offers free accommodation to Care Leavers for the duration of their university course - <https://www.unitefoundation.co.uk/>

Care Leaver Experience of Uni

Exeter University - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5fWEAptnk8>

Cambridge University - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rzqt5kio2Ho>

Heriot Watt University - <https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/student-support/care-leavers.htm?jwsourc=cl>