

Thurrock's

# Pledge



To children and  
Young People  
in Care

This pledge has been designed by the Thurrock Children in care Council (CICC). The pledge was established on 30th October 2010 by a group of CICC members in consultation with other young people in care and care leavers.

### So what is The Pledge?

The pledge consists of five promises made to young people in the care of Thurrock Council. These cover, Health, Education, reaching your potential, positive relationships and leaving care.

These pledges have been written by YOU the young people and have been agreed by Thurrock Council represented by Corporate Parents including Councillors, Directors, Service Managers and Team Managers and will be adopted throughout the Council for Children who are in care of the local authority.

### Who does The Pledge apply to?

The Pledge applies to all children Looked After by Thurrock Council from birth to 18 years of age. Some of our pledge also applies to those who are leaving care from the age of 18 up until 21 years and 25 years in some cases.

The pledge applies to you regardless of your sex, race, sexual orientation, disability, age, ability or background.

This is also applicable to you wherever you are placed, whether this is in Thurrock or out of the Borough.

Thurrock Council has made these promises and a commitment to you.

# Thurrock's Pledge

We promise to work to help you to develop healthily by...

helping you to keep fit and healthy and giving you the resources and information on how best to equip yourself to continue to develop.

ensuring that you are given support to have regular health and dental checks.

having social workers support you in all aspects of your development and giving you every opportunity to flourish.



# Thurrock's Pledge

We promise to do everything we can to keep you safe and feel important to us while in care by...

making staff available to speak to you when you need to contact them to discuss your problems, anxieties and achievements.

involving you in decisions and plans that are made that will affect your current and future life.

not changing your social worker unless absolutely necessary

giving you advice and support to stay safe both within your home and community.

calling you back within 24 hours.



# Thurrock's Pledge

We promise to help you reach your dreams while in care by...

celebrating your achievements and recognising your goals and helping to push you further while in care.

supporting you to attend and achieve in education.

providing you with good educational opportunities that best meet your abilities.

providing you with a translating dictionary in your language when you first come into care if your first language is not English.

giving you the same opportunities available to young people who are not looked after.

# Thurrock's Pledge

We promise to support your positive relationships and social activities by..

giving priority when you ask to stay with friends and relatives away from your normal placement.

aiding you in having easy access to libraries, youth clubs and positive activities.

giving you access to an independent visitor/ mentors

supporting you in being heard throughout the local authority across all departments.



# Thurrock's Pledge

We promise to prepare you for adult life and leaving care by..

- supporting you financially up until the time you start work or are entitled to claim benefits
- providing you with a grant to help you settle into your own accommodation when you leave care.
- supporting you in higher education at university.
- helping you with support to seek employment and training
- helping you with transport for attending education and LAC appointments
- supporting you to apply for all documentation and providing you with necessary information on your rights.

# Thurrock's Pledge

## From the Director of Children's Services

The PLEDGE is our PROMISE, made by Thurrock Council and its staff. We make promises to you that we intend to deliver.

We have the responsibility to ensure that you are healthy, stay safe, learn, enjoy life and achieve your goals. We will prepare you for your adult life when it is time for you to leave care. We may not always be able or willing to do what you want; but we will always involve you in the important decisions that affect your lives. We will always treat you as an individual and take into account the unique things about you, for example your age and sex, your race, language and religion, your sexual preferences and any disabilities you might have.

Thurrock Council will listen to you and your views within the Children in Care Council. The CiCC is your direct voice to all the Directors, Elected Members and Council officers who make the decisions in Thurrock that affect all residents.

We have special responsibilities for you. I want you to know that we are committed to you and to your future.

This pledge shows the commitments that we have made to you, putting you at the heart of everything that we do as a Council.

Thurrock Council wants to make sure we stick to the promises made to you and ensure that we are providing you our best service. Please discuss this pledge and let us know your views about how Thurrock Council is doing on its promises. This can be done through your Independent Reviewing officer or you can get in contact with the CiCC. Additionally, the CiCC is always looking for new representatives and would welcome your interest if you want to get involved.

If you have any comments or questions about anything you see in this pledge, please contact your Social Worker.

email: [ciCC@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:ciCC@thurrock.gov.uk) or  
call 01375 413730 for further  
information