|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Document Number** |  |
| **Name** | **Corporate Parenting Plan** |
| **Summary** | Review of the GJF Board responsibilities for corporate parenting |
| **Associated documents** | Relevant other documents |
| **Target audience** | All staff |
| **Version number** |  |
| **Date of this version** | March 2018 |
| **Review date** | March 2021 |
| **Date of full impact assessment** |  |
| **Name of Board** | National Waiting Times Centre |
| **Approving committee/group** | Equalities group  Partnership Forum |
| **Document author** | E Lang  *(content is adapted with kind permission of NHS24)* |

****

Corporate Parenting Plan 2018-2021

**Golden Jubilee Foundation Values Statement**

What we do or deliver in our roles within the Golden Jubilee Foundation (GJF) is important, but the way we behave is equally important to our patients, customers, visitors and colleagues. We know this from feedback we get from patients and customers, for example in “thank you” letters and the complaints we receive.

Recognising this, the GJF have worked with a range of staff, patient representatives and managers to discuss and promote our shared values which help us all to deliver

the highest quality care and service across the organisation. These values are closely linked to our responsibilities around Equality.



Our values state that we will:

* Take responsibility for doing our own job well
* Treat everyone we meet in the course of our work with dignity and respect
* Demonstrate through our actions our commitment to quality
* Communicate effectively, working with others as part of a team
* Display a “can do” attitude at every opportunity.

Our policies are intended to support the delivery of these values which support employee experience.

**1. Introduction and statement**

1.1 The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

The Children and Young People Bill was introduced to Scottish Parliament in April 2013, and was passed by Royal Assent on 19th February 2014, becoming the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

The Act addresses a range of areas relating to the wellbeing of children and young people and contains a number of provisions and duties that apply to public bodies, including health boards.

1.2 The Act and the Golden Jubilee Foundation (GJF)

GJF is specifically named within the Act with implications for the organisation across several elements of the legislation, including the consideration of sharing information relating to individuals with the Named Person Service.

Another key area for the organisation within the Act is that section which outlines the responsibilities and duties related to Corporate Parenting. GJF is specifically named within the Act as a Corporate Parent, and as such must demonstrate planning and activities designed to meet its responsibilities in this area.

1.3 Why does GJF have responsibilities as a Corporate Parent?

Section 56 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 identifies GJF as one of the ‘Corporate Parents’, which also includes all NHS boards.

Our duties as a Corporate Parent are set out in Part 9 of the Act, and we have a number of other responsibilities under additional Parts of the legislation. These duties are not the responsibility of a single named individual, post holder or unit, and should be delivered jointly as an organisation, embedded into the way we work. Evidence shows that care experienced young people have poorer health and wellbeing outcomes than other children and young people. Part of our responsibility as a Corporate Parent involves working to ensure these outcomes improve.

**2. Corporate Parenting**

2.1 Corporate Parenting is defined as: 'an organisation’s performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and secure the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development is promoted' (Statutory Guidance on Corporate Parenting; Scottish Government 2015).

Under the provisions of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 'Looked After Children' are defined as those in the care of their local authority. The vast majority of looked after children have become 'looked after' for care and protection reasons. Some will have experienced neglect or mental, physical or emotional abuse. Some parents are unable to look after their children because of their own substance misuse or poor parenting skills.

Children and young people with complex disabilities sometimes need to be looked after in specialist residential schools. Similarly, vulnerable unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and young people who have been illegally trafficked into the UK may also become looked after to ensure their well being. A small minority become looked after following involvement in the youth justice system.

2.2 When a child or young person becomes ‘looked after’ the state assumes duties and responsibilities to safeguard and promote their welfare and wellbeing; yet despite the extensive framework of law and policy, many looked after children and care leavers experience some of the poorest personal outcomes of any group in Scotland.

2.3 Latest available Scottish Government statistics report that there are over 15,000 Looked After Children, with over 4,000 Care Leavers.

2.4 Corporate parenting represents the principles and duties on which improvements can be made for these young people. Under this new legislation, the Scottish Government has now extended corporate parenting duties to a wider group of public bodies and establishing statutory requirements for corporate parents to plan and report on their activities.

3. Application of the Corporate Parenting Element of the Act

Within the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act, Section 57 describes the population of children and young people to which Part 9 (corporate parenting) applies.

The Act states that:

(1) This Part applies to:

(a) Every child who is looked after by a local authority, and

(b) Every young person who:

(i) Is under the age of 26, and

(ii) Was (on the person’s 16th birthday or at any subsequent time) but is no longer looked after by a local authority.

Provision 1(a) means that a corporate parent’s duties apply equally to all looked after children, regardless of their age, gender, location or placement type.

Provision 1(b) means that a corporate parent’s duties apply equally to all care leavers, up until their 26th birthday.

3.1 All corporate parents should be clear that the duties set out in Part 9 (in particular section 58 (Corporate Parenting Responsibilities) apply to individual eligible children and young people**. In so far as it is consistent with the exercise** **of their other functions**, every corporate parent should view their duties in relation to the specific needs of individual looked after children and care leavers.

3.2 Corporate Parenting Responsibilities

Within the Act, the corporate parenting responsibilities are set out as:

It is the duty of every corporate parent, in so far as consistent with the proper exercise of its other functions:-

(a) To be alert to matters which, or which might, adversely affect the wellbeing of children and young people to whom this Part applies

(b) To assess the needs of those children and young people for services and support it provides

(c) To promote the interests of those children and young people

(d) To seek to provide those children and young people with opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing

(e) To take such action as it considers appropriate to help those children and young people:

(i) To access opportunities it provides in pursuance of paragraph (d)

(ii) To make use of services, and access support, which it provides

(f) To take such other action as it considers appropriate for the purposes of improving the way in which it exercises its functions in relation to those children and young people.

3.3 Corporate Parents must prepare a plan and report on how they have exercised their corporate parenting responsibilities. Plans and reports should be published in a way that the organisation considers appropriate and may be published together with, or as part of, any other plan or document.

3.4 GJF Corporate Parenting Plan is presented on Appendix 1.

**4 References:**

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

[**http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2014/8/contents/enacted**](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2014/8/contents/enacted)

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014: Statutory Guidance on Part 9: Corporate Parenting

[**www.gov.scot**](http://www.gov.scot)

**5 Further information:**

**CELCIS** (Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland) www.celcis.org

**Who Cares? Scotland** [www.whocaresscotland.org]

**SCCYP** (Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People)

www.sccyp.org.uk

**GJF CORPORATE PARENTING PLAN Appendix 1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Legal Duty** | **Activity** | **Corporate**  **Parent** | **Lead** | **Timescale** | **Outcome** |
| 1. To be alert to matters which, or which might, adversely affect the wellbeing of children and young people to whom this Part of the Act applies | * Child Protection Policy is in place and available on Q pulse * Child Protection eLearning module is available on Learnpro™ This is not mandatory however frontline clinical staff are encouraged to do this module * Adult Support and Protection policy is available on Q pulse * Adult Support and Protection eLearning module is available on Learnpro™. This is not mandatory and clinical staff are encouraged to do this. * GJF will keep up with new developments by signing up to CELCIS newsletter which will be made available to staff via the Equalities Group and the Communications team. | GJF | Associate Nurse Director (Education and Professional Development) | April 2018 | Policies due for renewal at present and will be approved via governance routes in place. |
| 2. To assess the needs of those children and young people for services and support it provides | * Whilst there are no children treated as patients at the GJF there are a number of young people referred for specialist services (predominantly cardiac). Young people are assessed and care is planned according to their individual needs and with the support of parents/ guardians. * There is a Transition Policy in place to support young people from moving from paediatric care setting to adult hospital setting within the National Services Division. * When there are any concerns identified GJF protection policies are initiated. | GJF | All frontline staff clinical  National Services Division Clinical Nurse Manager  All frontline staff | In place |  |
| 3. To promote the interests of those children and young people | * Provide information on the Intranet, on the experiences of looked after children and care leavers to help staff gain a better understanding of the issues faced and the steps that may be taken to better support * Work with third sector organisations that represent the interests of looked after children and care leavers to explore role of GJF in promoting the interests of those children and young people. * Promote, where appropriate, services and Golden Jubilee news that affects children and young people through digital and traditional communication methods | GJF | Associate Nurse Director (Education and Professional Development)  Head of Communications and Corporate Affairs | June 2018 | ongoing |
| 4. To seek to provide those children and young people with opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing | * There is a robust volunteering scheme in place within the GJF and established links with local high schools to give young people the opportunity to volunteer within the hospital environment. * The GJF has achieved the Investor in Young People Gold award * The GJF has been recognised by West Dunbartonshire Council for their commitment to the Schools Employability Skills Programme. * The GJF has established links with West College, Scotland based at Clydebank with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). It has been specifically set up to develop education and employment opportunities for WCS students and support ‘Developing the Young Workforce’ activities in the local area and maximising healthcare opportunities for all young people. * The GJF is a Disability Confident Leader and is a Stonewall top 100 employer. |  | Volunteers Manager  Associate Director for Human Resources | ongoing |  |
| 5. To take such action as it considers appropriate to help those children and young people to access opportunities, make use of services, and access support which it provides | * Provide visits to GJF to meet with staff * Promote GJF through workshops and presentations * Offer and deliver sessions on what makes a good job application and include information on how to prepare for interviews and ways in which to answer competency based questions at interviews with WCS * The National Services Division (NSD) team host Transition information days for young people transferring their care from the Children’s Hospital to the Golden Jubilee |  | Volunteers Manager  Communications/ HR team  Volunteers Manager/ Clinical Education Team/ HR manager | Ongoing  Ongoing  June 2018 |  |
| 6. To take such other action as it considers appropriate for the purposes of improving the way in which it exercises its functions in relation to those children and young people. | * Contact CELCIS for further advice and guidance. |  | Associate Nurse Director (Education and Professional Development) | June 2018 |  |