

Wales young people's care experience advisory board

Who are we?

The Fostering Network is the UK's leading fostering charity, bringing together everyone who is involved in the lives of children and young people who are fostered to make foster care the very best it can be. Our mission is to support those who foster, improve opportunities for children and young people in foster care and provide expert guidance to all fostering services. You can find out more about our activity on www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk

The advisory board

We are inviting more young people with care experience from across Wales (aged 16 to 25) to join our **National Young People's Care Experience Advisory Board**.

We are committed to ensuring that young people guide our work and can share their lived experience to improve foster care for all; and the Young People's Care Experience Advisory Board is an excellent way to do this!

What do the advisory board do?

The group lead on the development of our young people's magazine - **Thrive** - and contribute to research, take part in campaigns, support our media activities and share their expertise to inform other pieces of work.

We want to know about young people's experiences of care and what matters to them. From this, we will help the fostering community to support young people to thrive!

What is the commitment?

The group will meet online, approximately six times a year and each meeting will last approximately 1.5 hours. We will also be in contact in between meetings to keep you updated about various activities and opportunities that you want to be involved in.



Why should I get involved?

- Develop skills and knowledge
- Build confidence
- Enjoy time to meet and chat with other young people
- Meet interesting organisations
- Help us make foster care the very best it can be!

Is it a paid opportunity?

As a voluntary role you will not be paid to be a board member. However, as a thank you for your time and contribution, you will be provided with a voucher when you attend and participate in online meetings and contribute to other pieces of work.

Online group agreement

All board members are required to follow and commit to the 'online group agreement' which will set out the responsibilities of board members and The Fostering Network in Wales. This code of conduct was developed by the young people in the group, and it is reviewed at the start of every meeting.



How can I get involved?

If you would like to be involved and join the Young People's Care Experience Advisory Board, you can complete this quick **online form** to provide us with some general information about yourself.

If you have any questions that you would like to ask before expressing your interest, you can email **charlotte.wooders@fostering.net** who is happy to talk to you.

What's next?

Once you have completed the online form, you will be contacted by Charlotte Wooders, the project manager, who will arrange and set up your **1:1 welcome call online**. This will last approximately 20-40 minutes and will give you the opportunity to find out more about the advisory board and what activities we have planned for the year.

You will then be invited to attend your first meeting or workshop.



Contact details

For further information please contact Charlotte Wooders, project manager, on **charlotte.wooders@fostering.net**.