

Hear
me

telling
it like
it is

Delivered by young people from



Doncaster
Children's
Services Trust

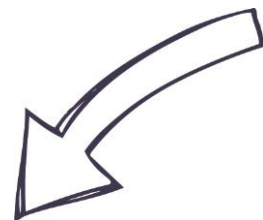


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What are we involved in?






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Hear Me...telling it like it is training



-  To gain a better understanding of the experiences of children and young people in care
-  To gain a better understanding how your role as managers, front-line staff and carers can impact positively on a child or young person's life
-  To gain a better understanding of the challenges children and young people both in care and leaving care face and how we can work together better



Interesting facts

19%

72,000

59,000

40%

13%

84%

We don't want to be one of these numbers!

70%

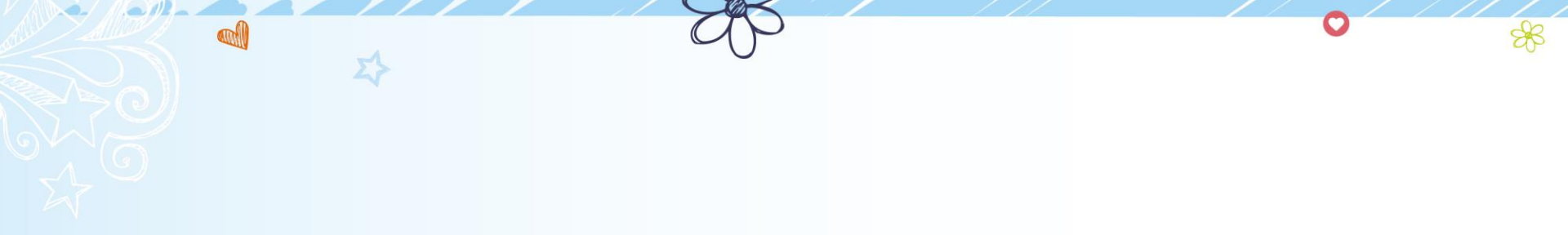
27%

38%

43%

50%





**Exercise
two**

**True or
False**



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Referral (1)

- Known to steal money from mum
- Also known to shoplift
- Causes trouble
- Not accessing education- abusive to staff within the school
- Bad influence on her sister
- Violent towards her sister
- Signs of depression
- Known drug user

Referral (2)

- Attends full time education
- Completed and passed GCSE's
- Went to college
- Gained an apprenticeship
- Undertook an access to university course
- Positive influence on younger siblings
- Non Smoker
- Really strong bond with Foster Carer
- Attends children in care council and other participation activities
- Happy and easy going young girl

The truth around my referral

Steals money:

My mum is a drug addict and all the money she got was therefore, spent on drugs. I used to take £20 a week to feed myself and my younger siblings. I wasn't going to let them starve.

Shoplifting:

I never stole anything other than food, believe it or not £20 doesn't go far when there is 3 of you. Oh- and a little bit of makeup but I was a teenage girl who had nothing when all her friends seemed to have everything.





★ A bad influence on her sister:

Me and my sister was separated due to what was wrote down, no one arranged contact between us. The only way we got to see each other was by truanting school together. – when we was finally placed together it was wrote down that I was in fact a positive influence.

Can be aggressive and violent towards her sister:

Me and my sister used to fight as a lot of siblings do. Given the circumstances you take it out on your nearest and dearest. It was never one sided, the arguments and fights was both of us. When we eventually got placed together we was in a foster placement for 4 years and did not fight once. We also live together independently currently.



Causes trouble:

What do you define as a trouble causer? I was a child going through a traumatic experience and yes my friends did get caught up in my situation. For example: shoplifting.

Signs of depression:

They thought this as every time they came round I was in bed. However, my mum was a drug user, she used to take amphetamines and therefore would be up all night for days on end and that resulted in me also being up. So of course I was in bed. I was exhausted. Because of this I was referred to CAMHS who told me I was not depressed. Who would of thought it?



Drug user:

I tried some weed along with a group of young people. You have a drag on a cigarette and you're a smoker, you try alcohol and you're labelled a drinker, you experiment with weed and you're suddenly a drug user. A lot of children and young people experiment, I bet even a few of you have? The difference is as a child in care everything is recorded. It feels like we're not allowed to be young people or make mistakes.

Not in education:

My mum has schizophrenia, we lived down the road from the school I was at, everyone knew my business. Everyone knew what was happening at home, what kid would want to be there? – I ended up going to school in my last year after missing out on two years education and I managed to pass my GCSE's, become a young advisor, hold down an apprenticeship whilst studying for an access course and am now a full time student in university doing a criminology and psychology course! Not bad really is it?

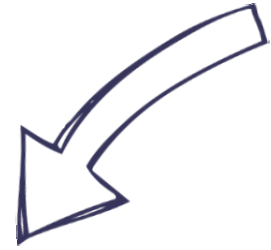


The result of my referral:

- I was separated from my sister- not only had I lost my mum I had also lost my sister
- I was placed in a children's home - in my head this was because no one wanted me
- I was not encouraged to spend time with my sister- this could of easily ruined our relationship
- My sisters foster carer did not want me anywhere near her
- My sisters placement was also effected as it became very disrupted due to her running away to spend time with me



Living Library




Questions



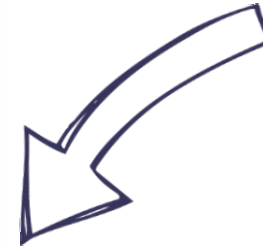
Answers

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Thank you



We would like to thank you for being part of our training today. We hope that you have learned from our experiences and that this helps you in your future practice.

