

# CARE LEAVERS COVENANT

We recognise the challenges that young people face when they leave the care system and begin to live independently. We recognise that all parts of society have a responsibility to support care leavers so that they can make a successful transition to adulthood. We hereby make a commitment to undertake the following actions that will help improve care leavers' life chances.

## PRINCIPLES OF THE CARE LEAVER COVENANT

We, Liverpool John Moores University, support the key principles of the care leaver covenant, which are:

- That all parts of society have a responsibility to help care leavers to avoid poor outcomes and make a successful transition to adulthood;
- and
- That action to support care leavers should be in their best interests, promote their health and well-being and secure the best possible outcomes for them.

## DEMONSTRATING OUR COMMITMENT

Through our John Lennon Imagine Awards scheme, Liverpool John Moores University will demonstrate our commitment to care leavers through:

- A dedicated member of staff to provide information, advice and support on all aspects of student life to care-experienced students who are considering or currently studying at the University;
- Access to all-year round accommodation in an LJMU-partner hall (including providing support for care leavers who face difficulty in providing a deposit or guarantor to secure LJMU-partner accommodation);
- Additional financial support through an annual, non-repayable bursary of £1000 for each year of a student's undergraduate course;
- A bespoke package of support to meet individual students' needs including support with Study Skills; liaising with academic departments and mentoring;
- Acting as an advocate or liaison with local authority Leaving Care teams to ensure joined-up and consistent approaches to support.



**In addition to the support provided through the JOHN LENNON IMAGINE AWARD, we will also demonstrate our commitment by:**

- Providing a range of bespoke aspiration and attainment-raising activities through the University's Outreach team to looked after young people in local schools and colleges, including campus visits and mentoring;
- Supporting potential students to attend University Open Days and other admissions events through the dedicated member of staff for care leavers;
- Providing priority places for Looked After Young People at LJMU outreach events including the LJMU Summer University;
- Using information, identified at application, to inform potential offers made to care leavers applying to study at LJMU
- Offering a priority interview for the Student Advocate role;
- Ensuring that Care Leavers have the opportunity to develop their academic skills through the University's Academic Achievement team;
- Providing access to appropriate careers and work-related advice and guidance through the University's Careers Team, including access to University internships and specific activities to prepare students for the world of work or further study, post-graduation;
- Ensuring that relevant staff take part in appropriate training and development to update their knowledge and skills in relation to care-experienced young people.

**We will continue publicise our commitments on our website, setting out how we will seek to put them into practice; and inviting feedback from care leavers on their impact.**



**MARK POWER**  
Chief Executive

