

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

