



Care Leaver Covenant 2018-19

Your higher education journey



OUR DECLARATION

We, Go Higher West Yorkshire, 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 help improve care leavers' life chances by widening their access to and supporting their success in higher education (HE) and beyond.



SUPPORT OFFERED BY HE PROVIDERS	Bradford College	University of Bradford	Calderdale College	University of Huddersfield	Kirklees College	University of Leeds	Leeds Arts University	Leeds Beckett University	Leeds College of Building	Leeds City College	Leeds Trinity University	Wakefield College
GETTING TO HIGHER EDUCATION												
Dedicated care leaver web page	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓		
Experiences on campus		✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Application support	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contextual admissions*	✓	✓		✓		✓					✓	✓
SUCCEEDING IN HIGHER EDUCATION												
Wellbeing support	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Named contact person for care leaver students	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Year round accommodation	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Support with the transition to higher education		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Additional financial support	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Training to help staff understand care leavers	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		
SUCCEEDING AFTER HIGHER EDUCATION												
Employment support	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	

*This is when HE providers can consider additional information (such as background factors) to make decisions on individual applications and achievement.

SUPPORT OFFERED COLLABORATIVELY



Getting to higher education

- **Foster Family Fun Days** - This is an ongoing series of relaxed subject taster sessions designed to introduce looked-after children of all ages to new skills and interests
- **Bespoke local events** - Go Higher West Yorkshire delivers and attends celebratory events across the region alongside community partners

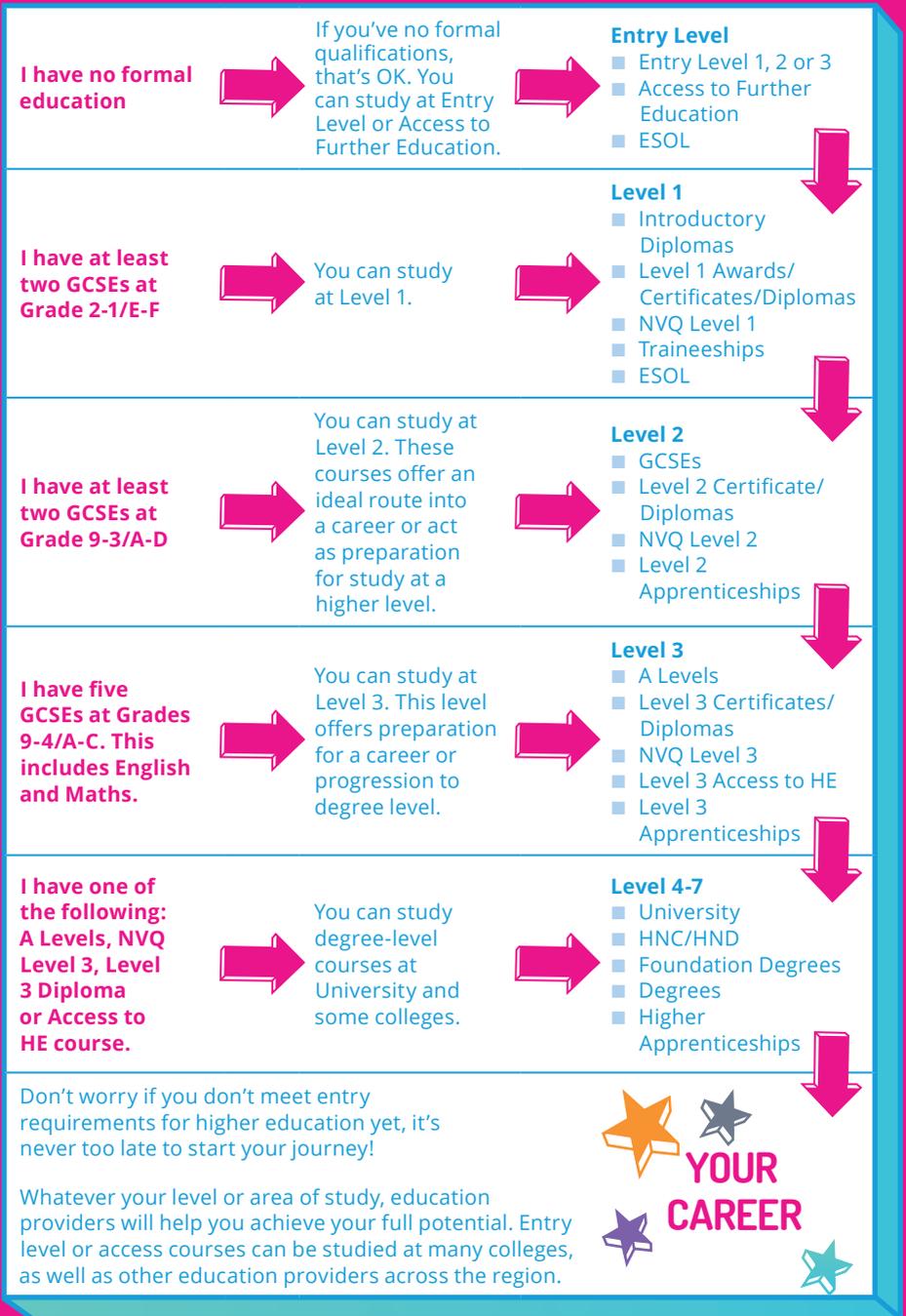
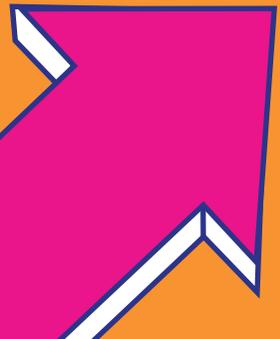
Succeeding in higher education

- **Sharing ideas and successes** - Partners work together to share what has worked well and develop new ideas to support the progression of care experienced young people
- **Student participation opportunities** - Go Higher West Yorkshire welcomes the involvement of care leaver students in our outreach work, incl. creative case studies and speaking at events



Succeeding after higher education

- **Professional mentoring** - A small-scale pilot is currently underway to match care experienced young people with a professional mentor to offer practical advice and support their career development. Eligible individuals will be contacted by their Local Authority to participate.
- **Employer links** - Go Higher West Yorkshire has excellent links with local employers, creating opportunities for us to champion the skills and potential of care leavers in the workplace



TOP TIPS

1. When providing information in UCAS tick the 'care leaver' box when applying to ensure you have access to all the support on offer. This information will be treated in confidence, and will not affect the outcome of your application in any way.
2. Care leaver contacts at all partners can be contacted for information. They may also meet you to answer questions and show you around campus. They can direct you to colleagues to discuss your personal circumstances; anything from caring responsibilities to a criminal record. You can find their contact details on our website.
3. Check what financial support is offered by your local authority to care leavers who would like to go into higher education. Your personal advisor should be able to help you with this.
4. Talk to people you trust about the benefits of higher education, what may be important for you to consider as a care leaver and what is the best path for you.

BEING A CARE LEAVER HAS NOT STOPPED ME FROM ACHIEVING MY FULL POTENTIAL AND THE UNIVERSITY FULLY SUPPORTED ME THROUGHOUT; I CAN'T THANK THEM ENOUGH.

I FELT VERY WELCOMED TO [MY HE PROVIDER] AS A CARE LEAVER AND HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCESS BOTH EMOTIONAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT.



FIND OUT MORE!

Our website: www.gohigherwestyorks.ac.uk

Our twitter: [GoHigherWY](https://twitter.com/GoHigherWY)

Our Instagram: [gohigherwestyorks](https://www.instagram.com/gohigherwestyorks)

Our Covenant online and more care leaver stories: www.gohigherwestyorks.ac.uk/care-leavers

Apprenticeships: www.getingofar.gov.uk



Our partners!

Bradford College:
www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/student-services/student-support/care-leavers

University of Bradford:
www.bradford.ac.uk/study/care-leavers/

Calderdale College:
www.calderdale.ac.uk/higher-education/

University of Huddersfield:
students.hud.ac.uk/wellbeing-disability-services/wellbeingservices/care-leavers/

Kirklees College:
www.kirkleescollege.ac.uk/higher-education/

University of Leeds:
students.leeds.ac.uk/info/1000014/plus_programme/1063/care_leaver

Leeds Arts University:
www.leeds-art.ac.uk/about-us/progression-widening-participation/care-leavers/

Leeds Beckett University:
www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Leeds College of Building:
www.lcb.ac.uk/study-with-us/higher-education/

Leeds City College:
leedscityuniversitycentre-y91i.temp-dns.com/student-life/care-leavers/

Leeds Trinity University:
www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/business-and-partnerships/schools-colleges-and-teacher-services/widening-participation/care-leavers

Wakefield College:
www.wakefield.ac.uk/higher-education



You can also email Go Higher West Yorkshire at hello@gohigherwestyorks.ac.uk and we will help signpost you to further support.



17 Blenheim Terrace, Leeds LS2 9JT

Web www.gohigherwestyorks.ac.uk Email hello@gohigherwestyorks.ac.uk

University Centre
Bradford College



University of
HUDDERSFIELD



universitycentre
at **wakefieldcollege**