National Care Leavers Month - #NCLM

Sunday 1st November to Monday 30th November 2026
Calendar of Events, Campaigns and Activities during and around NCLM

The Alliance for Looked After Children & Care Leavers and care-experienced young people from across the country are working together to share ideas, collaborate, and coordinate some planned activities for this year's National Care Leavers Month.

We have created this information booklet with the theme, call to action and a summary of events, campaigns and activities taking place across the country.

Please share it across your networks and, if possible, on your website.



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At the start of this year we held a consultation, asking care experienced individuals and various organisations to come together to come up with ideas for what they wanted the theme to be this year.

The result?

Leading The Way: From Experience to Empowerment.

"Recognising care-experienced individuals as leaders and drivers of real change across the sector."



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Call to Action for #NCLM:

A working group from the Alliance has also agreed to a call to action to unite Care-Experienced individuals, the organisations that support them, and allies of the care-experienced community for a common purpose.

"This National Care Leavers' Month 2026, we're calling on the public, professionals, carers, decision-makers, and the media to CARE".



Celebrate: *care leavers/care experienced individuals.*
Amplify: *their voices.*
Raise: *awareness of challenges.*
Encourage: *change in policy and practice.*

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NCLM Scrapbook

Contribute to the NCLM Scrapbook
Share your photos, videos, and social posts to feature in our national digital scrapbook! Check the briefing presentation or video above to see how you and your young people can get involved.

A simple idea for groups, events or individuals during National Care Leavers Month is to create a social media post including a reflection around either the theme:
Leading the Way: From Experience to Empowerment

Or using the Call to Action

For professionals we also ask you to think about the A – Amplify "their voices" no one says it more authentically than a care experienced individual so why not boost that voice in NCLM



NCLM Scrapbook

The post could be a picture of some artwork, some words on a post it note or paper, a video – be as creative as you want!

All we ask is that wherever you post it that you use the National Care Leavers Month hashtags and we will try to capture as much as we can in our digital NCLM Scrapbook after November.



#NCLM #LeadingTheWay

Social Media & Digital Assets #NCLM:

A working group from the Alliance has created lots of social media and digital assets including:

Logo

Posters

Instagram stories post

#NCLM Quote templates

To download the canva templates, use them and adapt them please CLICK THIS LINK

(To use it, click 'View template' and then 'Open in Editor'.)

You can also download all the digial media assets from page



#NCLM: National Events, Campaigns and Activities

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
For Babys Sake **Rewriting the story: Creative interventions that change systems and narratives for care-experienced people**	Join The For Baby's Sake Trust and Blue Cabin for a thought-provoking webinar exploring the connections between care experience, healthy relationships, domestic abuse and parenthood.	**Wednesday 21 October** **3:00pm - 4:00pm**	Professionals	The session will look at how digital access, online safety, skills and preparation for adulthood are reflected in national and local policy, where responsibility for supporting young people's digital lives currently sits, and where gaps and examples of promising practice are beginning to emerge.	Find out more
Edge Hill University **Online CPD programme for those supporting students with experience of care or estrangement**	Our free, online CPD programme equipping professionals with the knowledge, confidence and practical tools to effectively support care experienced and estranged students in accessing, succeeding and thriving in higher education.	**Sessions taking place each week over November** with each session taking place at several times through the day (12pm to 1pm, 1pm to 2pm, and 3.30pm to 4.30pm) which attendees can self select	Professionals in any field who are supporting young people and adults with experience of care in educational settings.	The three sessions in the programme cover supporting students to research and apply to Higher Education, applying for Student Finance and other sources of funding, university accommodation, and supporting students with the transition into Higher Education.	Sign up here! and links will be sent through via email. For more information on our institutional support for care experienced students, you can visit ehu.ac.uk/wideningaccess or our dedicated student digital guide via ehu.ac.uk/cees

#NCLM: National Events, Campaigns and Activities

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
Coram **Exploring Practice - Digital lives of care-experienced children: what policy and practice mean for young people**	For children in care and care leavers, the chance to get online, build digital skills and grow in confidence is often shaped by the structures and experiences of care itself, and the adults and systems around them play a crucial part in how that unfolds.	**Tuesday 10th November** **12pm - 1pm (online)**	Professionals supporting Care experienced individuals and researchers	The session will look at how digital access, online safety, skills and preparation for adulthood are reflected in national and local policy, where responsibility for supporting young people's digital lives currently sits, and where gaps and examples of promising practice are beginning to emerge.	Book here https://corambaaf.org.uk/form/digital-lives-of-care-experience
United for Change for Care Leavers **A collaboration between Catch22, National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum**	Brought to you by Catch22's National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum (NLCBF), Young People's Benchmarking Forum (YPBMF), The National House Project (NHP), and Care Leavers National Movement (CLNM), this event offers a powerful day of cross-sector collaboration. It has been shaped with care experienced people from the very start, ensuring that lived experience is front and centre.	**Tuesday 17th November** **10am - 4.15pm (The Vox in Birmingham)**	Care experienced individuals, Local Authorities, Government, Charities, Businesses, and Representatives from Public Bodies	The day will be hosted by YPBMF Legends, CLNM Representatives, and our special guest co-host, award-winning broadcaster, TV presenter, author, and inspirational speaker Ashley John-Baptiste. Whether you're care experienced, a professional directly or indirectly supporting care experienced people, or simply passionate about making a difference, this space was built with you in mind. It is a chance to listen, learn, and take meaningful action.	https://leavingcare.org/united-for-change-for-care-leavers/ @YPBMF, @NCLBF @CLNM, @TheNationalHP

#NCLM: National Events, Campaigns and Activities

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
Advancing Access **Advancing Access Virtual Conference: Guiding Care-Experienced Students into Higher Education**	Join a group of Russell Group Universities for sessions including: • UCAS applications, extenuating circumstances and funding • Contextual admissions and options available • Accessing support both before and after entry to unviersity • Live Q&A	**Thursday 19th November** **3.45pm - 6pm**	Professionals supporting care-experienced and estranged students - teachers, careers staff, social workers and other supporters welcome!	Advancing Access is a collaboration of Russel Group Universities	https://advancingaccess.ac.uk/events/virtual-conference-ce
Pro Alliance Sports C.I.C **Pro Alliance Sports International Cup**	The first-ever international Fixture between the Care Experienced England and Wales teams	**Tuesday 24th November** **1pm - 4pm** **Chase Town Football Club, Staffordshire**	Everyone	Care Experienced England V's Care Experienced Wales football match	Booked to spectate https://www.ticketsource.com/pro-alliance-sports-cic
Rees Foundation **Care for the Future**	This National Care Leavers' Month, we're bringing care experienced people from across the UK together for Care for the Future, our national consultation event in Manchester	**Wednesday 25th November** **From 10am**	Care for the Future is open to care experienced people and care leavers of all ages – whether you left care recently or many years ago.	There'll be workshops, consultation activities, live Let's Connect tasters and opportunities to connect with other care experienced people – plus free lunch and a goodie bag!	To sign up: Sign up Form Questions: contactus@reesfoundation.org

#NCLM: National Events, Campaigns and Activities

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
Power2Prevail **Explore Your Future In Law**	Curious about law? 👀 Join Power2Prevail, Lawyers Who Care and Mishcon de Reya for an insight day exploring legal careers! Only 15 spaces, first come, first served🙌🏾.	**Friday 27th November** **11am - 4pm**	Care experienced young people 16-25 based in London	Step inside a law firm, hear about life as a corporate lawyer and explore pathways into law. Bring your questions and discover what interests you.	To sign up: Sign up Form Questions: jade@power2prevail.co.uk
Coram Voice **A National Voice: Your Chance to Join the National Children in Care Council**	Help shape national campaigns and projects for children in care and care leavers! Sign up to our newsletter to hear first about December's A National Voice Ambassador recruitment and opportunities.	**Launch: Tuesday 1st December** **Deadline Monday 4th January**	Children in care and care leavers (aged 16-25), Professionals, carers and organisations working with care-experienced children and young people are also encouraged to sign up to share opportunities with their networks.	Ambassador recruitment opens in December 2026. Sign up to our newsletter to be among the first to hear when applications open, alongside other opportunities to get involved throughout the year.	Sign-up to our newsletter here: https://coramvoice.org.uk/sign-up-anv/ Find out more: https://coramvoice.org.uk/get-involved/a-national-voice/how-a-national-voice-works/



NCLM: Light Up



The National Light Up sees buildings, statues, monuments and spaces across England illuminated in blue.

We call on councils, colleges, universities and other public buildings e.g. faith institutions such as churches, mosques and synagogues - to light up and celebrate the care experienced community.

We would also like commercial buildings and visitor attractions to demonstrate their allyship and solidarity through this visual symbol of support.

Buildings can be lit up for an hour, a day, a week or across the entire month.

The colour code for is Pantone C38/C52 or HEX #7ecde8.



Please share photos of your building lit up on social media (#NCLM) and send pictures to us at info@mycovenant.org.uk.

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#NCLM: Local Events, Campaigns and Activities

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
Cheshire East **National Care Leavers Month**	Join us for Care Leavers Month 2026, featuring free activities, employment workshops, outdoor activities, social events, and wellbeing opportunities to build confidence, develop skills, make connections, and have fun.	**All Month**	Care Experienced young people aged 16-25.	Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Events provide opportunities to build confidence, learn new skills, meet other care leavers and improve wellbeing,	On our Junction 16+ app
Birmingham Children's Trust **National Care Leavers Month**	We have a wonderful timetable for November that has been produced and have a range of activities for Birmingham Care Experienced young people.	**All Month**	Care Experienced young people aged 16-25.	We would like to invite all Care Experienced young people to join in with a range of activities throughout the month. Throughout November we want to create a fun, engaging experience. Overall the opportunity to recognise our young people's achievements and share these with others. Look out for the city library being blue and the fantastic art-work across the organisation!	BCT Intranet It's currently being developed and getting ready for the launch.

#NCLM: Local Events, Campaigns and Activities

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
WYLP **Supporting Care Experienced Young People across Yorkshire**	We have a wonderful timetable for November that has been produced and have a range of activities for Birmingham Care Experienced young people.	**All Month**	Care Experienced young people aged 16-25.		For more information, please email Alex Miles alex.miles@wylp.org.uk
Fair Ways **Care Leavers Matter Appeal 2026**	Fair Ways aims to provide 200 wellbeing hampers for care-experienced young people across Portsmouth and Southampton, showing them they are valued, supported and that they continue to matter	**Monday 2nd November - First week of December**	Businesses, local or national, that wish to donate to the appeal, either products/vouchers or a financial donation.	Help us fill 200 wellbeing hampers by donating toiletries, treats, vouchers, tickets or experiences. Businesses and individuals can also make a financial contribution towards the items we need.	www.fairways.co/support
Carefree Cornwall **It's Been Emotional 2026 - We're still standing**	Care Leaver celebration event at a Cornish museum for Care Leavers and the people around them. Voices, games, arts, dinner, dancing, and chocolate- with Floyd Steadman OBE DL HonDEd guest speaker.	**Tuesday 3rd November**	Care Experienced young people aged 16-25 and professionals		www.carefreecornwall.org.uk

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Redcar and Cleveland **Career and Support Fair**	Local event showcasing the support available to Care Leavers with jobs, volunteering and education.	**Friday 6th November** **1pm to 3pm.**	Care Experienced young people aged 16-25.	Event is being held in the Civic Centre in Redcar and will include employers, local colleges and Universities. As well as volunteering organisations.	For more information contact Stephen Bushnall - Careers Adviser stephen.bushnall@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk
Yorkshire and Humber **National Care Leavers Month Celebration**	Young people's event to celebrate the month, at Askham Bryan College York. Workshops, food, music, animal park and raffle.	**Saturday 21st November** **10.30am - 3pm**	Care Experienced young people aged 16-25 from Yorkshire and Humber Local Authorities.	Building on the first regional celebration last year, another chance to meet others, try new experiences and win some prizes.	Speak to your PA and leaving care team.

#NCLM: Local Events, Campaigns and Activities

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
Catch-22 **Care-Experienced Young Person Mitie Programme**	Catch22, Mitie and the Mitie Foundation would like to promote our 6-week paid work experience programme in London for Young People aged 18-30 and are care-experienced!	**Monday 23rd November - Thursday 17th December** [2/3 days per week pre-employability workshops] **Wednesday 6th January - Friday 12th February** [2 days per week at the paid work placement]	Care Experienced young people aged 16-25 based in London. In possession of Right to Work documentation. Ideally NEET, however, if they can commit to the programme, we may still be able to accommodate non-NEET candidates.	Four weeks of pre-employment training and support, including visits to Mitie's HQ at The Shard +Paid [London Living Wage] six-week work experience – two days a week, 16 hours per week	For more information, please email Danielle Lecointe danielle.lecointe@catch-22.org.uk or Jay Laven jay.laven@catch-22.org.uk
Berkshire **National Care Leavers Month Celebration**	Across Berkshire we are doing a Celebration event at the end of November for our local Care Experienced Young People. This will include speeches, stalls, games & food	**Wednesday 25th November** **6.30pm - 9pm**	Care Experienced Individuals	This will include speeches, stalls, games & food as well as some music throughout the night	If you are care experienced and from one of the following Local Authorities please get in touch with your leaving care team to let them know you are interested in attending: West Berkshire, Slough, Bracknell, Reading, Wokingham

#NCLM: Resources and Offers

Name of your Event, Campaign or Activity	Description	Date/s and Time/s	Target Audience	Any other useful info	Contact Details
Refugee Host Support **Ask Ali and Ask Hanna**	Ask Ali (Afghans) and Ask Hanna (Ukrainians): memberships offering 24/7 live counsellor support in first languages, short-term counselling, a wellbeing app and a 24/7 NHS-registered GP helpline. #RefugeeSupport #RefugeeWellbeing #MentalHealthSupport	**All month**	Everyone	5% discount on memberships for organisations booking an appointment in November 2026. Quoting reference NCLM26	www.refugeehostsupport.co.uk contactus@refugeehostsupport.co.uk
Rebekah Pierre **"Before You Share Guide" for lived experience speakers, and "How to be a supportive audience for lived experience speaker" guide**	Rebekah has developed two guides - a "Before You Share" resource which gives care experienced people information on how safely share their stories, assert boundaries etc. The second is a "How to be a supportive audience for lived experience speakers" guide with information on what orgs and audiences can do to be allies, practically and emotionally.	**All month**	Care Experienced Poeople / Allies and organisations		Available from Rebekah's LinkedIN Profile

Local Events for Care Experienced Individuals

We want to celebrate the local events taking place, e.g. hosted by local authorities, charities, etc for their care-experienced individuals.

This form is for local organisations and LA's to let us know about what they are planning so that we can amplify and celebrate your activities during NCLM.

To let us know about a local event you would like the Alliance to celebrate, please complete this form https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/fTVLCXhAYV by Monday 9th November



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FAQs

Question 1: Wider impact – What is the aim of NCLM?

The aim of NCLM is to celebrate care experienced people, raise awareness, and help challenge the stigma that still exists. It brings care experienced people together as a community with shared experiences, while also recognising everyone's unique identity and achievements. NCLM creates opportunities for care-experienced people to connect, share their voices, and get involved through events, opportunities, and influencing work. It shines a light on the positive changes already happening, while being honest that more change is still needed so care-experienced people are fully recognised, supported and included across society.

Find out more about NCLM in this useful briefing video



FAQs

Question 2: What is the role of the NCLM Steering group?

The NCLM Steering Group helps guide the direction of National Care Leavers Month. It brings together care-experienced people and organisations to share ideas, promote events, and make sure the month feels meaningful and inclusive. It also helps NCLM grow in a sustainable way by building partnerships, learning from feedback, and sharing the work across different groups. The Steering Group is also there to make sure NCLM does not rely on one person or one organisation. Whilst the Steering Group does not directly run events, the individual organisations involved do.

By working together,
sharing responsibility, and listening to feedback, the
group helps NCLM grow, adapt, and last.



FAQs

Question 3: How can care leavers get involved in planning NCLM?

There are different ways to get involved in NCLM, both locally and nationally. We want involvement to be fair and inclusive, so people can take part in different ways depending on what works for them. Local opportunities might include getting involved with events or activities run by local authorities and organisations in your area.

National opportunities include sharing your views through consultations around the theme, and evaluation sessions. In 2025 the NCLM logo was designed by a care experienced individual, and the theme is chosen each year through national consultation to make sure it is meaningful and inclusive. These give everybody a chance to shape and review NCLM and share ideas for planning next year.
You can find out more through the organisations you are connected to and national partners involved in the Steering Group on the Alliance Website Page



FAQs

Question 4: How can I find out about events happening in NCLM?

You can find out about NCLM events through the organisations involved in the Steering Group, other organisations, and your local authority. The Steering Group helps promote and connect activity. It does not run events itself. Instead, each organisation plans its own events and opportunities for care leavers to join.

We will also publish this national programme of events which brings together activities from a range of organisations and areas, so people can see what is happening and how they can get involved.



We will release an updated edition midway through the month so you still have a chance to let us know about your event, campaign or opportunity HERE by the 9th November

alliance
for children in care and care leavers

Big thank you to all the organisations and young people involved in helping shape this year's #NCLM

INFLUENCE IMPROVE IMPACT INNOVATE
NLCBF

CARE LEAVERS NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Rees
Helping Care Experienced People Thrive

NHP
Living connected and fulfilling lives

coram
better chances for children since 1739

drive forward

BECOME.
THE CHARITY FOR CHILDREN IN CARE AND YOUNG CARE LEAVERS

CARE LEAVER COVENANT

#NCLM - What Can You Do?

Sunday 1st November to Monday 30th November 2026

Join an Event: Come along to one of the many events listed

Social Media Boost: Share content via your social media platforms using #NCLM

We will share and boost your activity leading up to and during National Care Leavers Week.

Contact Us:

To let us know about a event you would like the Alliance to celebrate, please complete this form https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/fTVLCXhAYV by Monday 9th November



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