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# Support and Provision for Care-experienced & Estranged Students in HEIs: How far have we come, and where are we headed?

Dan Keenan

Widening Participation & Lifelong Learning Team

University of Glasgow

[daniel.keenan@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.keenan@glasgow.ac.uk)



# UofG Support & Provision for Care-experienced Students



BUTTLE UK

UofG held Buttle Quality Mark  
at *Exemplary* rating, from **2007**  
until scheme ended in **2016**.

- **Guaranteed adjusted offer of entry at UofG 'Access Threshold'**
  - Including participation in WP Pre-entry Programme.
- **365 days of the year accommodation guarantee**
  - Including priority and emergency allocations.
- **Priority funding**
  - Including ring-fenced Bursaries & Scholarships and priority support from UofG Discretionary Fund.
- **Dedicated, named point(s) of contact, offering:**
  - Pre-entry info, advice & guidance, application support, liaison with Admissions, etc.
  - Ongoing support, advice, guidance & advocacy, both internally (UofG) and externally (SAAS, Social Work and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector charities, etc.).

## Corporate Parenting 2014 >

**The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act, 2014** named Universities and Colleges as **Corporate Parents**, meaning they had a **legal responsibility** towards every child who is looked after by a Local Authority, and every young person, up to the age of 26, who was, at age 16 or beyond, but is no longer, looked after by a local Authority.

*Corporate Parenting* is described in the legislation as:

*(T)he formal and local partnerships needed between all local authority departments and services, and associated agencies, who are responsible for working together to meet the needs of looked after children and young people.*

**AND**

*An organisation's performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver.*



## Sector-wide Commitment to Care-experienced Learners



### Commission on Widening Access (CoWA) Final Report: *A Blueprint for Fairness*, 2016

- **Recommendation 21:** *Those with care experience, who meet the access threshold should be entitled to the offer of a place at a Scottish university. Entitlement should also apply to those with care experience who have had to take a break from higher education and wish to return.*
- **Recommendation 22:** *The Scottish Government should replace student living costs loans with a non-repayable bursary and provide a more flexible package of student support for learners with a care experience.*



### Universities Scotland – *Working to Widen Access*, 2017

- *Care experienced learners will be guaranteed an offer of a place at university if they meet minimum entry requirements.*
- Commitment put in place by Scotland's 18 HEIs for entry in AY 2020-21



### SAAS support for Care-experienced Students AY 2017-18

- Care-experienced Student Bursary (Age cap removed in AY 2020-21)
- Additional +1 year of funding
- Summer Accommodation Grant



### SFC's National Ambition for Care-experienced Students & Care-Experienced National Policy Group

- In line with wider CoWA targets, the National Ambition outlines SFC's commitment to equal outcomes for care-experienced students and their peers by 2030.
- SFC Policy Group includes representatives from WhoCares? Scotland, CELCIS, SAAS, and Care-Experienced Regional Forums, and is there to ensure that SFC meets targets as set out in the National Ambition.



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Many other organisations continue to do critical work in supporting, advocating & campaigning for, and giving voice to care-experienced learners in Scotland



**WHO  
CARES?**  
SCOTLAND

**EQUALITY | RESPECT | LOVE**



**THE HUB  
FOR SUCCESS**



**CELCIS**



**MCR  
PATHWAYS**



**Unite**

**Foundation**



**cdn**

College Development Network



The  
**ROBERTSON**  
Trust



**the promise  
scotland**

# Increase in Care-experienced Student Numbers

## Care-Experienced Undergraduate (Scot Dom)

### Entrants to Scottish HEIs

Academic Year	No. of Care-experienced entrants	% of all entrants	Retention rate (%)	Overall Retention %	Difference in retention rates
2014-15	<b>240</b>	0.6%	82.7%	90.5%	-7.8%
2015-16	<b>230</b>	0.6%	84.3%	90.6%	-6.3%
2016-17	<b>265</b>	0.7%	83.7%	91.0%	-7.3%
2017-18	<b>360</b>	0.9%	85.6%	91.6%	-6.0%
2018-19	<b>465</b>	0.9%	90.9%	90.4%	0.5%
2019-20	<b>505</b>	1.0%	84.9%	90.4%	-5.5%
2020-21	<b>655</b>	1.2%	88.9%	90.2%	-1.3%

## Care-Experienced Students in Scottish Colleges

Academic Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
FE	2,760	4,150	6,075	10,760	10,355
HE	295	415	715	1,215	1,300
<b>Total No.</b>	<b>3,055</b>	<b>4,565</b>	<b>6,790</b>	<b>11,975</b>	<b>11,655</b>

With thanks to Carina MacRitchie and the SFC's Care-Experienced National Policy Group for allowing me to use this data from the Group's papers.  
For queries re. these papers, see: <https://www.sfc.ac.uk/access-inclusion/equality-diversity/care-experienced/care-experienced-national-policy-group.aspx>

# UofG Support & Provision for Estranged Students



UofG signed StandAlone Pledge in **2016**. The support we offer Estranged students is identical to that in place for Care-experienced students.

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  - Including participation in WP Pre-entry Programme.
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# What next for Care-experienced & Estranged Students?

## At the University of Glasgow:

- Refresh of institution-wide training
- More proactive programme of support for learners re. their transition *out of* the University
- Support for creation of a Care-experienced & Estranged Student Society

## Possible sector-wide developments?

- Funding for Postgraduate study
- National Guarantorship Scheme
- More proactive partnership working between Colleges and HEIs

\* For recent research and recommendations re. support for learners post-UG degree, see: See Zoe Baker (2022) *The Care-Experienced Graduates' Decision-Making, Choices and Destinations Project : Phase one report*. University of York.