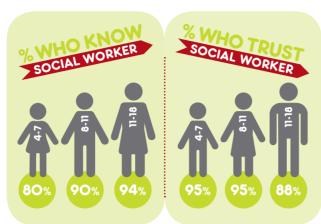
Looked after children's views on their well-being in 2018



children (4-7yrs) didn't know who their social worker was.



I feel that I am really getting on with my current social worker and that I know that I can trust her and that she understands my views and feelings and that I can tell her everything." (11-18yrs)



Someone has fully explained



My independent reviewing officer empowered me to have a say through co-chairing my meetings and knowing what changes were happening.



Survey age groups



27% of young people (11-18yrs) had 3 or more social workers in the past year.

(4-18yrs)

'It would be better if I could stick with one Social Worker, they change a lot." (8-11yrs)



I would like to know more about why I am in care and why I am not living with my mum." (4-7)

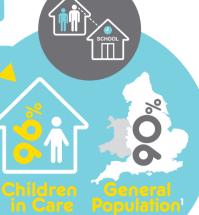
(4-18yrs)





The people ! live with take an interest in what I do at school/ college.

My carer is nice [and] helps me a lot especially when it comes to [home] work." (8-11yrs)





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I SEE



I feel like it's the best day ever when I see my mother, because I love seeing her. I'm very sad about not seeing my dad as I really miss him - he was very

I have someone I can trust, who helps me and sticks by me no matter what.



I have a really good friend.

It's hard to change schools and lose friends and make new friends.



I can trust my foster carers now and they support me in all the decisions I make. I feel that I have truly found a one in a million placement." (11-18yrs)



If I feel bullied. get support from someone.

I used to get bullied because I didn't live with my parents and no one helped me but then it got better so I think it would be good if young people like me could spread their story everywhere." (4-7yrs)



my feelings

and behaviour.

'I get to do similar things to I want out of care, it's terrible,

because I am not allowed to have sleepovers, or if am, it takes too long to arrange and I nearly miss out on trips waiting for consent." (11-18yrs)

Feelings

things to make me feel embarrassed about being in care.

Home



Being in care makes my life better by having a safe house and bedroom. (8-11yrs)



I have access to the internet at home.

'As I am 15, I should have a chance of having social media because - ALL of my friends have it and I don't like being left out, so really being in care is tough." (11-18yrs)





Linda Briheim Crookall, Dr. Claire Baker, **Professor Julie Selwyn** November 2018 © Coram Voice, 2018

Get in touch with Coram Voice on brightspots@coramvoice.org.uk or go to www.coramvoice.org.uk/brightspots to find out more and take part.



Well-Being



'I love being in care because the people I live with are very nice and love me very much." (8-11yrs)



Compared to the genera population⁴ a similar proportion of children in care have very high well-being but more have low well-being.

'Going into care has really helped me as I got a fresh start in life to do good things in life so I appreciate it " (11-18yrs)

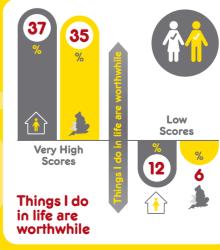
Hate it, I don't care how much effort they put in, they don't really care about the kids. I feel like it's all about money... if I was going to review it i would give it 1 star." (11-18yrs

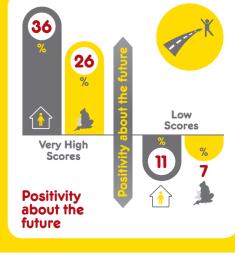


Our findings show some young people in care are struggling in many areas of their lives whilst others are doing very well.









¹WHO, (2015), Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children Survey. ² Rees, G., Main, G., & Bradshaw, J. (2014), Children's Worlds National Report England.

³ ONS Statistical bulletin, (2017), Internet access - households and individuals. ⁴ The Children's Society, (2018). The Good Childhood Report. Data provided for this comparison by Dr. Alexandra Turner