"Carers who changed our lives"





She's made me more happy

## She always makes me smile and laugh

### She looks after me and is always there for me

#### She has taught me to have fun and to enjoy life



"My foster mum is an inspiration to me and many people around us.

She is a big support and has a great sense of humour. She is so beautiful and confident and always manages to surprise me with her love for me and her family. She is the best mother and friend I could ever imagine and she deserves to be celebrated and admired."



people in care

Carers who changed our lives ...

She has taught me to be confident and stand up for myself and others. She has taught me the importance of family

# She is an inspiration

She is fun to be around, we like going shopping together, but when serious things happen she is great for support and advice creating a better life for children and young



She has helped me turn my life around. I would call her my hero

She never complains and she puts up with all my issues, mood swings and meltdowns, but even after all this she still loves me

She tells me that even though I may not be related by blood, I'm still her child and that just means the world to me

Whenever I need someone to talk to she's always there to listen and she always sticks up for what is right for me. She has taught me to never give up and not let things get to me because it will only end up hurting me



My foster mum has been a great role model for me over the last few years

She's given me the chance to be a better person by believing in me and giving me opportunities to grow

Some of the best qualities about her are that she's a nice person, has a big heart and is an creating a better file for children and young people in care



My carer does not treat me like a number, it's like a family instead of being in care, some people do actually care

I get support here and I feel like I actually have a real father. All places have their differences but when you are vulnerable, people can walk over you and some carers don't realise that strict punishment creating obstante always work. for children and young people in care



My carers make me feel like I'm a part of the family. When I offer people to sleep in my room and I'll sleep on the couch, I get told that's my room

She feeds us all the same, just like a normal family, loves us all equally, and takes us places all together



Sometimes its different if you are naughty but it's still fun! We all get the same amount of everything, like at Christmas we get the same amount of presents, same on birthdays as well, if you get older you get more money for presents

We make the decisions together and I get to say what I want and I get to say I feel comfortable doing something, I get to have a choice



# Primo's advice....

Helping when the young person needs help – even if they don't always ask

If a young person is having a hard time, give them space If young people need you, they will ask for you to be there – don't worry if you feel like they're shutting you out...young people talk to their mates



Have young people participate in the decision making – don't just make decisions for young people because you think it's right – include the young person to have a say (even if it's not right!)

Young people need to be able to be included in the decision making process (within reason). Encourage young people to be apart of this – it's empowering for a young person.



Ask young people what they want to have happen – all you can do is ask and young people will most likely give you an answer. This breaks down the hierarchy of the relationship

Have a sense of humour – young people can laugh! Don't try to control everything that the young person thinks/believes or does – young people need to learn from their mistakes



Listen

Give young people space

Ask young people for their opinions

Let young people know that you care – not every 5mins but something like once a week

creating a better life for children and young people in care Carers who changed our lives ...