

# THE BRENT PLEDGE 2018

The Brent Pledge is a list of promises to children and young people in our care. These are things that we will do so that they have the best support and help possible.



## We promise

### To respect and honour your identity

- ✓ We will respect your personal beliefs, values, culture and heritage.
- ✓ We will support who you are and what you want to be.
- ✓ We will provide you with information about your background that is appropriate for your age.
- ✓ We will support and encourage relationships between you and members of your family.

### To involve you in the decisions about your life

- ✓ We will actively listen to your views and opinions and act on your behalf.
- ✓ We will explain our decisions and make sure that you fully understand what has been decided.
- ✓ We will involve you in planning of services that you receive.



### To provide stability for you

- ✓ You will have your social worker's telephone number and know where they work so you can speak to them when you need to.
- ✓ If your social worker leaves you will be told when and know details of your new social worker and their manager.

- ✓ We will do our best to make sure you don't have too many change of social workers and move too many times
- ✓ Your Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) will listen to you and make sure your views are heard.

### To support you

- ✓ We will help you to manage challenging relationships.
- ✓ You can tell us how you feel and we will help you choose what you want in your life.
- ✓ We will support you to become the person you want to be.
- ✓ We will make sure you get to meet other children in care where you live and in other places so you can help each other and talk about the things you like and don't like.
- ✓ Your social worker will come and see you and you can talk to them on your own every time they come.
- ✓ When we come to see you we will make sure you can be there and that you are not in school
- ✓ We will tell you and other people when you have done something really well.
- ✓ We will ensure that you have access to an independent person (an advocate) upon request.
- ✓ We will remember your birthday and other important days.



## To provide you with a safe, stable and happy place to live

- ✓ We will ensure that your carer knows enough about you to be able to support you.
- ✓ We will support your carer to understand you and the things that you are going through.
- ✓ We will provide you with a safe place that you can call home.
- ✓ We will do everything possible so that you can meet your new carer before you move.



## To support you to be active and stay healthy

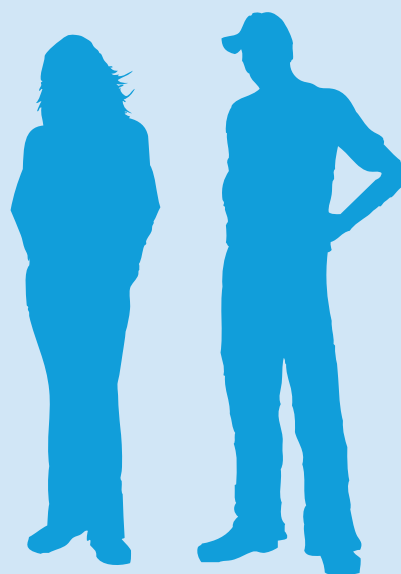
- ✓ We will provide you with opportunities to take part in fun activities such as sports, access to the outdoors and other activities you are interested in.
- ✓ We will support your physical and mental health and encourage you to make healthy and positive choices for your life.
- ✓ We will make sure that your carer takes you to see your doctor, dentist and other healthcare professional when you need to visit them.
- ✓ We will provide you with information and advice about healthy eating, exercise, smoking, drugs and sexual health.

## Work with you to achieve your goals and targets in education

- ✓ We will value your strengths, gifts, talents and encourage you to have high ambitions.
- ✓ We will support you to learn, help you to achieve your very best at school and support you when you are making decisions about your future.
- ✓ We will ensure that you have the things you need for your education including access to a laptop.
- ✓ If needed, we will find an advisor, life coach or mentor to support you.

## Preparing you for independence

- ✓ We will work to ensure that you are ready for independent living including how to manage money and how to cook.
- ✓ We will work with you on your Pathway Plan at the age of 16 so that you are clear about what will happen next and what support you will receive.



- ✓ We will provide you with information about what you are entitled to and how to access your entitlements.
- ✓ We will consider your wishes to stay living with your foster carer after the age of 18.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mili Patel".

Councillor Mili Patel  
Brent Council's Cabinet  
Member for Children and  
Young People Chair, Corporate  
Parenting Committee

Updated February 2018

With thanks to the members of Brent Care in Action who have been instrumental in developing the Pledge