

Consultation appendix:

The strategy has been co-produced with our care experienced children and young people via a series of surveys; one focussing on the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic lockdown and another focussing specifically on the content of the strategy. We drew upon the national [Bright Spots surveys](#) from the previous two years which Bristol children and young people have contributed to. We also consulted foster carers and professionals. The 8 priorities were informed by this work as was the image that represents the Bristol Model.

This was then taken to the Children in Care Council and our Care Leavers Forum CLUB where the groups fed back on the image, explored what “belonging” meant to them, and wrote a joint letter to Corporate Parents which is the introduction to the strategy.

#### Feedback from Focus Groups September 2020:

Children in Care Council:

“Belonging means shared experiences.”

“I belong at the CICC because I can make new friends and learn about social life”

“There are kids going through what I’m going through”

“Relationships are important, [they] help us not to give up in life”

“Relationships are important but I find them difficult. I’m not very good at relationships”

“Family and friends are most important relationships”

“Resilience means bouncing back from the thing you find most hard”

“Resilience means never give up”

Care Leavers Unite Bristol (focussing on heart image)

- “Love should be in the middle because that’s the most important, and the central bit is the most important”
- “Use big writing for most important words”
- “Love should be in a red heart, in the middle. All loving words should be red”
- “Voice and Family on next heart outside love”
- “Stories/identity on the heart after that”
- “Resilience and Trauma-informed round the outside”
- “Use warm colours like red, orange and yellow”
- “Trust is important too”

Belonging means....

- being listened to
- being able to be open [about thoughts/feelings] and there not being consequences
- being accepted
- having key relationships, someone to believe in you
- I struggle to feel belonging. I feel I belong more as a care leaver than when I was in care. Belonging is seeing the same lot of people and knowing them”
- Workers need to show they care
- Relationships can make you feel like you belong