

# Listening to your children in care and care leavers' views on what makes their lives good has never been more important. We help you explore how they feel and how to make their lives better.



Over the past year it has become ever more important to focus on children & young people's well-being. The Bright Spots Programme has supported over 50 local authorities to understand what makes life good for their children in care & care leavers through the **'Your Life, Your Care'** (children in care aged 4-18) and **'Your Life Beyond Care'** (care leavers aged 16-25) surveys & have gathered the views of over 14,000 children and young people to date.

### Helping you improve your service

- We help you systematically listen to your children in care & care leavers about the things that are important to them so that this can **influence your service development** & strategic thinking, a key requisite of Ofsted.
- We work with you to tailor the survey distribution & ensure you achieve the **best possible response rates**.
- We carry out independent analysis & create **high quality reports**, that compare children & young people's responses in your local authority each year & **benchmark** against other local authorities. We highlight where you are doing well (Bright Spots) & areas for improvement.
- We **share learning** & innovative practice between local authorities involved in the programme.

### What makes our surveys unique?

- The **largest surveys** of their kind allowing you to **compare** your children and young people's **subjective well-being** to other local authorities & to the general population.
- **Co-produced with children & young people** – the surveys are based on what 170 children in care & care leavers said was important to them.
- **Strongly evidence based** – the surveys are a robust research tool, developed over 7 years together with the University of Oxford, drawing on international research reviews, focus groups & rigorous piloting.
- **Quick & easy** to use online surveys with **confidential & secure** data handling.
- Captures the views of children as young as **4** & young people up to **25**.

*The Bright Spots Survey has enabled Hertfordshire to improve the quality of our practice with looked after children and young people and has contributed positively to service redesign in Children's Services.*  
**Operations Director**

*There's nothing like the children's voices. We can pretend we know, and we can speak to foster carers and we can speak to schools ... but children's voices are the most important.*  
**Service Leader**

*an excellent temperature check of our care services and what we need to do better...*  
**Minister for Children & Families**

*We looked at Bright Spots and thought it's probably the best way to systematically get all the views of our children and young people or as many as we could possibly get. And the benefits of that is what comes with it, so it's not just the survey: - it's the report, it's the links with wider research against your peers.*  
**Service Leader**



Costs: **£8,500** to do one survey; discounted rate of **£15,500** if doing both  
 Contact us for more information: [brightspots@coramvoice.org.uk](mailto:brightspots@coramvoice.org.uk)  
 or call **020 7239 7526**, [www.coramvoice.org.uk/brightspots](http://www.coramvoice.org.uk/brightspots)