

Your Life Beyond Care survey - Sample definition

For the cohort year 2026-27

How to determine your sample of care leavers for this survey?

Your survey sample should include:

- All 'relevant' young people
- All 'former relevant' young people
- All care leavers aged over 21 who you are supporting

Who to include in the survey sample

- **All young people aged 16 or 17 who were previously in care** (i.e. 'eligible' young people)* but who are now no longer looked after i.e. 'relevant' young people.
- All care leavers aged 18 and over i.e. 'former relevant' young people.
- **Please include care leavers aged over 21 who remain entitled to support under the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000** (these young people may be continuing in an agreed programme of education or training OR they may have returned to the leaving care service and be receiving support under Personal Adviser to 25 duties).
- Please include all care leavers who are entitled to support regardless of how regularly they engage or are in touch with the service.
- Please include care leavers in the full range of accommodation types including secure accommodation.
- **Please make reasonable adjustments to include full range of young people including unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people and disabled young people** – do talk to your Bright Spots lead about ideas for ensuring a wide range of young people are given the opportunity to take part.

Young people who are unable to complete the survey

We are not including 'eligible' children i.e. children still in care aged 16 or 17. They will be included in the Your Life, Your Care survey – not the care leaver version. We are also not including 'qualifying' young people.

As part of the working group discussion a decision will need to be made whether to exclude any individual young people for whom the survey is not appropriate. This could be because

they have a disability that would mean they did not have the capacity to understand the survey; or because the young person in question wouldn't find the questions relevant, or other circumstances mean it is necessary to remove them from the list of care leavers.

We hope you are able to offer the opportunity to take part in the Bright Spots survey to as many of your care leavers as possible. Please make reasonable adjustments as to how you distribute the survey so that you can include the full range of young people including unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people and disabled young people.

Calculating your response rate

Once you have created the list of care leavers who fit the criteria for the survey i.e. the sample then you need to provide Coram Voice with the numbers of care leavers. Coram Voice will use this information to calculate your response rate.

If you have any questions on criteria for sample inclusion please contact your Bright Spots lead or email: brightspots@coramvoice.org.uk