

Tips for: Keeping records for children and young people

In this video, the young people talk about the types of records and important information they wanted to access to make sense of their time in care.

Reflections

Michael talks about wanting network maps that are bigger than who is in his family. What are the things young people want recorded that stood out for you?

Sophie said that she would have liked to know who her caseworker was at different points in time. How could you leave behind something of yourself when your time working with a child ends?

Ty talks about wanting to know the different places he lived in. What might be some reasons Ty wants to go back to those places? Beyond an address, what else might a child want to know about the houses they lived in and the people who cared for them?

Your plan

How will you keep a record of all the places a child or young person has lived? What will you record about these places so that children and young people can more easily track and understand their time in care?

How will you use existing systems like life story work and home visit notes to record the small things and childhood memories that the young people identified as important for them?

How will you make time to develop and record a young person's family tree, networks and life story as described by Michael?

Group supervision questions

How can we record the child's experiences so they leave care with meaningful information about who they are?

How can we make sure we keep childhood memories at the centre of our out-of-home care records?