



SQA Corporate Parenting Summary Report 2022-25



This report highlights what we've achieved in the last three years as a corporate parent. Please get in touch with us if you have any comments or questions. We would love to hear from you.

Why we've written this report

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 says that all corporate parents need to share information with Scottish Ministers about how they are meeting their responsibilities.

We're pleased to share highlights of our corporate parenting work and how we're meeting our responsibilities.

What we've done to support you

We developed our [Corporate Parenting Plan 2023–26](#) with you in mind, through listening to care experienced people, Who Cares? Scotland, and others. This plan is our guide to providing better support as a corporate parent.

Language matters

We know how we talk about care experience is important. Our SQA Language Guide for our colleagues has been updated, so we speak about care in a way that's respectful and empowering.

Treating care experience as a protected characteristic

We treat care experience as a protected characteristic even though it is not a legal protected characteristic under Equality Act 2010. We've updated our staff equality training and Equality Impact Assessment process to encourage colleagues to take measures to support care experienced people in the same way we do for other equality groups.



Free replacement certificates for life

We now give free replacement certificates to anyone with care experience, no matter their age. We know these are important, especially when applying for work or education.

Working with amazing partners

We work closely with Who Cares? Scotland, MCR Pathways and Career Ready to understand your needs. We are represented on Who Cares? Scotland's Collaborative Corporate Parenting Network, which gives us the opportunity to work with other corporate parents. We also work closely with and offer our support to [Haus of Seisay](#) Hairdressing Academy, a care-friendly SQA approved training centre.

Together, we create new opportunities and support care experienced people in education and employment.



Staff training

We're promoting our all staff training, and have delivered face to face training to our senior leaders, to ensure our colleagues better understand:

- what care experience means
- what support care experienced people might need
- what we can do to remove barriers for care experienced people

Celebrating care experienced people

On National Care Day and during Care Experienced Week, we celebrate care experienced people online and in person. We want to share your stories and encourage our colleagues and senior leaders to learn more about care experience.

Volunteering and support

As part of Who Cares? Scotland's campaigns, we help send out Christmas and birthday cards to care experienced people and collect and donate gifts. We also attended the Love Rally and Carelidh to meet people from the care experienced community and support these celebrations.

Making assessments fairer

We've reviewed our qualifications and assessments to make sure they're fair and accessible for everyone, including care experienced learners.

Teacher resource — a Guide for Scotland's Teachers

We supported Who Cares? Scotland to create a new resource — [Care Experience and Corporate Parenting: a Guide for Scotland's Teachers](#). We want to support Scotland's teachers to have insight into the lives of care experienced learners and the important role teachers play as corporate parents.

Creating job opportunities

We encourage and support care experienced people into work through:

- Modern Apprenticeships
- work experience
- mentoring programmes
- Career Ready internships

Looking ahead

We'll keep you at the heart of the change as we become Qualifications Scotland. We'll keep listening to your voice, build in your feedback, and keep removing barriers and offering our support.

Whether you're still in school, applying for jobs, or just figuring out your next steps, we're here for you. Visit our [Corporate Parenting webpage](#) or [contact us directly](#).

If you would like to access more detailed information, you can view the [full report on our website](#).