

Care Day 24

CARE DAY is the world's biggest celebration of children and young people with care experience. This group includes children and young people who are or were cared for by foster carers, or other family members, and those who live in children's homes. They deserve to be celebrated, on CARE DAY, and every day. For more information, visit <u>www.voypic.org/careday</u>.

CARE DAY in the UK and Ireland is a joint initiative across five children's rights charities, and led in Northern Ireland by VOYPIC – Voice of Young People in Care. This year, CARE DAY will take place on *Friday 16 February*.

This year we will host our first annual *CARE DAY AWARDS*, celebrating the achievements and contributions of young people with experience of care right across Northern Ireland. We will also be hosting fun activities for young people, providing safe spaces for them to connect and celebrate the day.

We are delighted that many councils have agreed to our request to light up public buildings for Care Day, and civic receptions are planned in Belfast, Derry and Strabane, Ards and North Down, Mid and East Antrim, and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon.

Show Your Support

We're asking you to put your '*Hands Up for Care Day*'. This means writing *#CareDay24* on the palm of your hand, then sharing a selfie of if on your social media channels, on Friday 16 February.

This year, we are asking you to take the photo somewhere that shows where you are, if it is safe for you to do so. So, for example, you might take it at a local landmark, or outside your office. Or, you might take it from a comfy chair in your house. Somewhere that means something to you.

Care Day is all about connecting and celebrating the care experienced community. So, we want to show that there is support for young people with lived experience of care in every corner of the UK and Ireland, especially here in Northern Ireland.

When you share your photo, don't forget to use #CareDay24 and tag VOYPIC in your post.

