

Appendix 5

Informed consent - young people

Anyone who is asked to participate in a research project has the right to know what it is about and what is involved before deciding whether or not to take part in the research. As part of this process, I would like you to know that:

- The aim of my project is to interview young people leaving care like you and to find out about their experiences.
- Your experience is of great importance as this information may help care workers and policy makers to better understand the position of young people leaving care and how they can improve the support offered.
- I would like to interview you to find out about your experiences of leaving care and preparing for employment and independent living. If you have any mental health problems, I would also like to discuss how this affects you and what kind of support you are getting to help you with this. If you agree, I would like to record the interview and write out our conversation so I can understand more clearly what you said for research purposes. You have the right to look at what I have written if you want. We can discuss this matter later if you wish.
- The information recorded will be treated as confidential and anonymous, which means that I will be the only person who knows what you told me. However, if you want your social worker or any other person to know what you have told me, you need to let me know that this is your wish.
- It is really important for me to know that you are comfortable during the interview. If you feel any kind of discomfort just let me know.
- You can stop the interview at any time or choose not to answer some of the questions. If this is your wish, you do not need to explain the reasons for doing so.
- If you feel tired we can always arrange to do the interview on another day and time to finish the interview.
- If you wish to go to another place where you will feel more comfortable, we can always move there.
- If you want to provide any other kind of information after this meeting or destroy the tape recording or written record of your interview, you can contact your worker and express your wish or you can always contact me directly by email (mbma1@hw.ac.uk).

You do not need to stick the box now; you can always do it at the end of the interview.

I,, agree to participate in this research conducted by Marina Amaral on.....
at.....

Thanks for your collaboration

Marina Amaral