Way too serious language

The words we choose are important. When interacting with children and young people we should aim to help them feel connected, informed, respected and included.

Ensure children and young people's plans are personalised and use language that promotes young people taking ownership of their plan: e.g. talk about 'your plan for the future' or 'what you need'.

Formal titles

Keep children's personal relationships in mind: When communicating with young people call people by their names, not 'uour CSO' or record a child's 'Nan' as 'PGM' in their plan

Placement 1

Understand how the young person wants their 'placement' to be referred to: Consider using words like 'your home', 'your family', or 'where you are staying.'

Respite

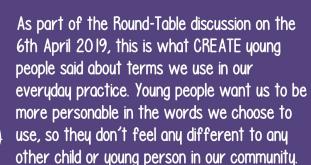
Normalise spending time outside of the immediate family unit: Don't say respite, instead say sleepovers (or a word of the young persons choice). Ask if it is OK if the young person stays with...(person's name)

Exiting and leaving care

Contribute to a transition process that is normalised: e.g. 'about being more independent or 'planning for your future.')

Supervised contact or access

Normalise language around family visits: Talk about visiting with mum or dad or having a talk with mum and



Absconded

for what happened.

Use words such as 'running away' or 'left home because...' Provide context



