

# How does experience of care affect children?

Life before being in care and life in care can make growing up difficult for children. This can affect their lives today and in future.

Examples of this can be:

- Children not doing as well in school

- Young people finding it harder to go to college or get a job
- Children finding it difficult to cope with what has happened to them.

It is important to remember that children who experience care are not all affected in the same way. For some young people things can be really tough, but others find things easier.

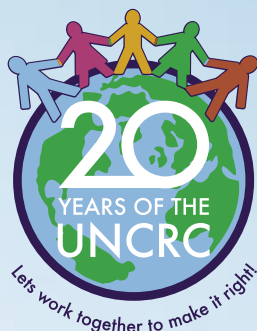
## What the **UNCRC** says about children and care:

- Children should be able to grow up with their family if this is possible (*article 9*).
- Children not living with their family need special protection and help and there should be checks to make sure they are okay (*articles 20 and 25*).

The United Nations checks if Government is keeping its promises.

In 2008 they said Government should do more to check children living in care are okay, especially if they have a disability, and make sure they all have contact with their families where they can. They also said Government should do the three things we think are important (see back page).

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# Children and Care