

Launch of new Corporate Parenting service a roaring success

The sun shone down on Stephenson Court last Friday as the usually drab surroundings of the car park were transformed into the venue for the launch of our new Corporate Parenting service.

This important new team brings together two previously separated services – Looked After Children and Leaving Care, and Fostering and Adoption - with the aim of improving the support we give to all children who come into the care of the council.

As well as formal speeches, those attending the event were treated to thought-provoking contributions from Amy, a member of the Children in Care Council and nine year-old Jaymeleigh, who read a poem about a monster, for which she won a school prize. There was also a rousing rendition of ‘the Greatest Love of All’ from members of the team before the fantastic finale of the event – a traditional Chinese Lion Dance.

Head of Corporate Parenting, Edward Wong said: **“There was a real buzz at the event, and it was so great to see so many staff, children in care, care leavers, foster families and adopters come together to celebrate our important new service.**

“I wanted to have the Lion Dance to mark our special day because, traditionally, it brings good luck and prosperity. The dancers were made up of diverse groups, in terms of gender, age and ethnicity, which ties in nicely to one of the principles for the new service: namely embracing diversity and difference.”



Edward Wong looks on as the Lion Dance brings good luck to the new Corporate Parenting service.