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| Case Study – Coleg Gwent.This Strategy for supporting vulnerable learners in Further Education (FE) by the introduction of an information sharing protocol with the leaving care teams in local authorities.Coleg Gwent introduced the ‘Protocol’ in 2012, following a visit to Neath Port Talbot College (NPTC). The aim of the visit was to share best practice and emulate the excellent work carried out at NPTC, which was having a significant impact on retention and outcomes for care leavers (CL), looked after children (LAC) and other vulnerable learners e.g. young carers, those estranged from their families.The Protocol, deals with applications to Coleg Gwent, information sharing, support (including finance and grants) and progression into further Coleg Gwent courses, Higher Education or employment.The Coleg Gwent Protocol is agreed between the South East Wales Education Forum (Leaving Care Teams) and the college. The purpose of the Protocol is to work with the five boroughs the college services i.e. Monmouthshire, City of Newport, Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly in order to:* Facilitate a smooth transition into FE by means of outreach work
* Assist CL and LAC in obtaining a place and succeeding in their programme of study at Coleg Gwent
* Help CL/LAC to maximise their potential
* Facilitate staff in Coleg Gwent and the social care settings to work effectively with LAC/CL, whilst on their course in further education and beyond
* Provide a basis for problem solving and clarity regarding roles and responsibilities of all parties, and
* Provide the names of contacts who are responsible for CL/LAC whilst they are in college, and to agree that both parties will work together to facilitate smooth transient into college, throughout their studies and beyond
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