 

**HELOA Professional Development Conference:**

**Spotlight on independent students**

Wednesday 6 November 2019

Holiday Inn near Birmingham Airport

HELOA and Student Loans Company are jointly running a one day event that will provide an opportunity to learn more about supporting priority groups in higher education.

9:30 **Registration & Refreshments**

10:00 **Conference Welcome**

10:15 **Engaging care leavers in higher education**

DFE – Katie Adam, Policy Adviser, Care Leaver Policy Team & Kirsty McQueen

Keynote discussing the care leaver covenant and policy changes in relation to supporting care leavers to access higher education

11:00 **Refreshment break**

11:15 **Student Finance - The Application Process – For Targeted Support Groups**

SFE to provide overview and best practice advice for students from vulnerable groups, and how their applications and evidence requirements might differ from standard applications

Independent Student Groups:-

Estranged Students – 10 mins – CV

Care leavers – 10 mins CV  
Young carers – 10 mins

Non UK Applicants

EEA Migrant workers – 10/15 mins AE

Non EU Applicants (Refugees, Asylum Seekers) – 10 mins

Q&A – 5 Mins

12:15 **Lunch**

13:00 **Breakout Sessions**

**Session 1/2**

**Disabled Student Allowances – Supporting Students with Complex Needs**

SFE DSA support, mental health and estrangement case studies 25 mins

**Session 2/2 – Identifying and Supporting Young Carer’s at University (Sheffield Young Carers)**

How can you support students that are young carer’s whilst at University 25 mins

14:15 **Refreshment break**

14:30 **Roundtable discussions**

A chance to talk to other delegates about you and your institutions’ experiences and best practice of engaging with these groups of students include independent also.

*“What has been discussed today, what it is you will take away, introduce and recommend to your*

*Uni or in your student talks and interactions?”*

15:00 **Working to Support Care Experienced Children \* *TBC***

Working with looked after children and local authorities

*NNECL Best practice when working with Care Leavers*

15:30 **Conference summary**

15:45 **Depart**

Programme correct at time of publication. Sessions are subject to change