



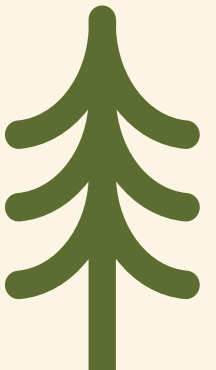
# Harmeny Education Trust





Harmeny

# Our Story of Change





Harmeny

**Paul Henderson**  
Here4U Project





**Harmeny  
Education Trust**



Harmeny  
Education Trust



1958

**A brief history**



2024

# A brief history

# Developments in the early 2000s

Purpose-built school and residential cottages





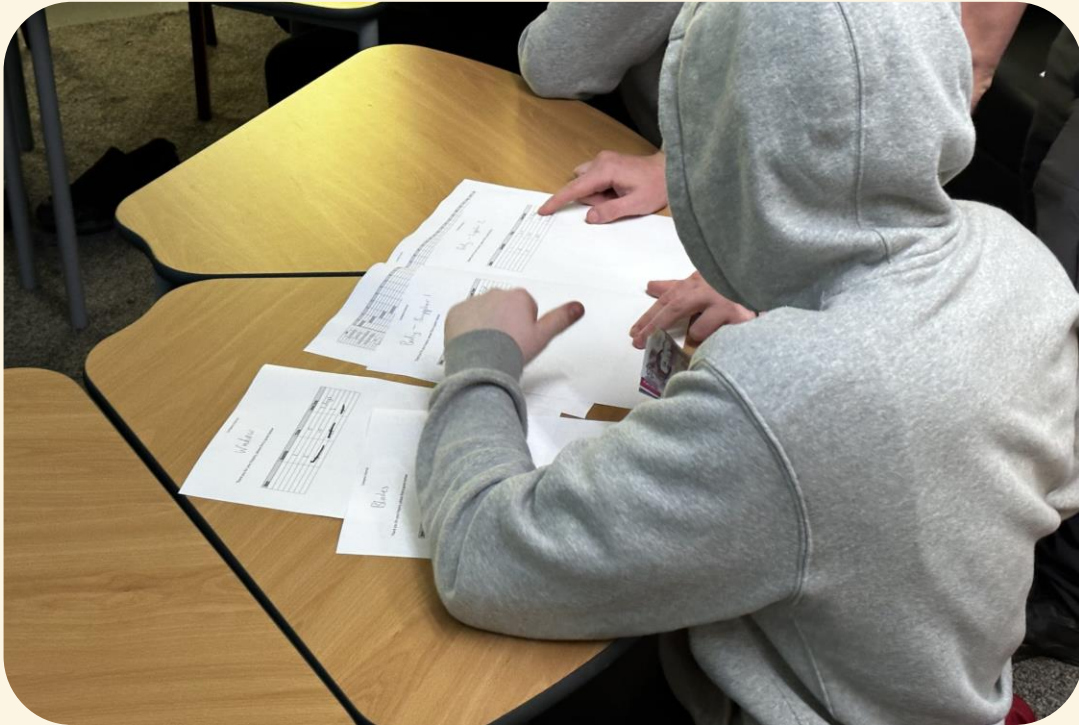
# Developments in the early 2000s

Spotlight on Outdoor Education



# Developments in the late 2000s

Specialist service for day pupils  
Introduction of S1 and S2 education





# Harmeny

A place to live, a space to thrive.

**2016**

Independent Care Review commissioned.

**2017–2020**

Care review listened to over 5,500 voices.

**2020**

Conclusions on 5<sup>th</sup> February, including The Promise.  
Cross-party support to keep the promise.

**2021**

The Promise Plan 21–24.



**The Promise**



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# The Promise



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***“We grow up loved,  
safe and respected so  
that we realise our  
full potential”***

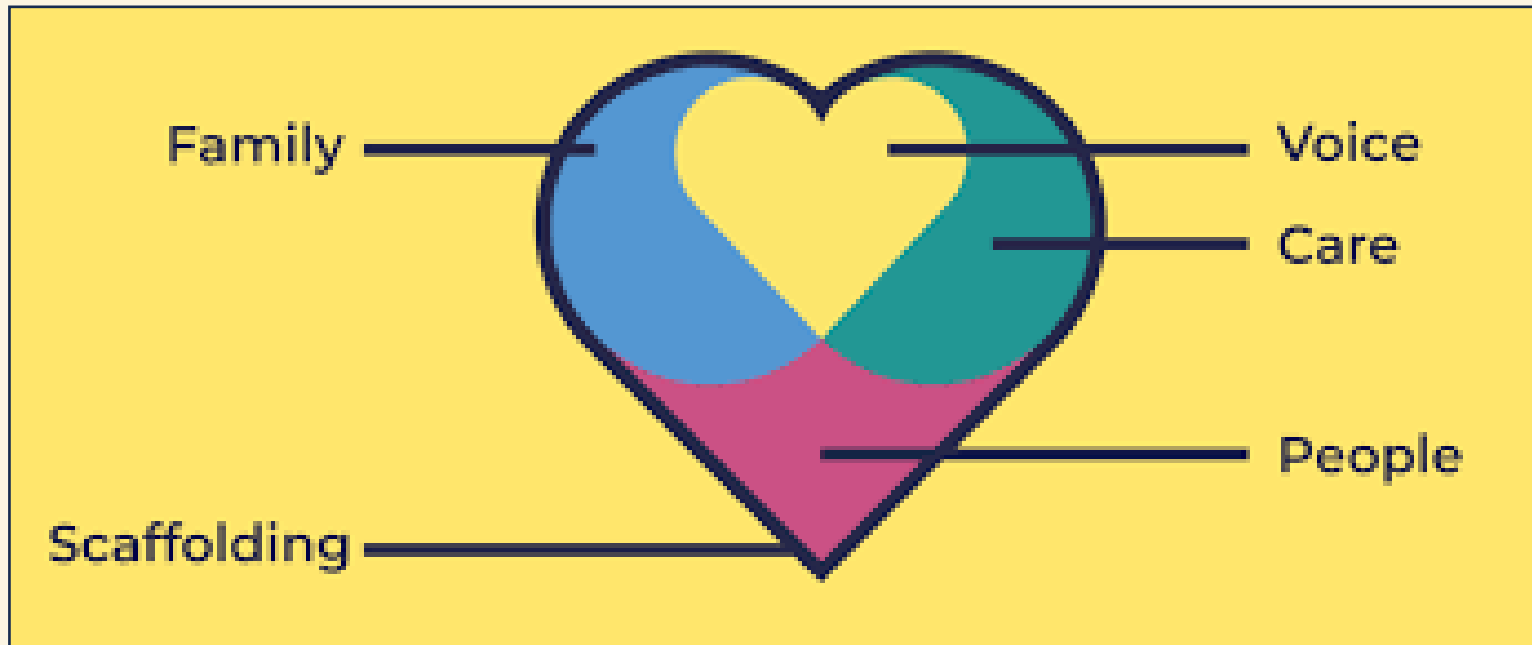
Scotland’s ambition for  
children and young people.



# Harmeny's Promise: Key Themes

- Increase the voices of children, young people and their families.
- Reduce placement disruption by extending upper age limit.
- Develop work with siblings and families.
- Provide support to former pupils.
- Develop therapeutic practice framework.
- Partnership with CAMHS.

# The Promise: Foundations





# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## **Voice**

To listen to the views of children in relation to the provision of their care and learning, as well as the development of our current and future services.





**“Harmeny was the last place I really felt supported”**

**“I made mates that lasted”**



**“Cottage was homely, kind of like a family”**

**“It was a really great environment to grow up in”**



# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## **Voice**

What else are we doing?



# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## People

To further develop the skills and enhance the well-being of our highly dedicated staff, through excellent training, supervision and support systems.





**“Good staff. They were just supportive. And funny as anything”**

**“The people. They helped me and supported me. The support that I needed”**



**“They were kind, fair”**

**“There was a lot of support. When living there I felt wanted”**



# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## People

What are we doing?



# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas




## Family

To extend our reach, through a learning and well-being service for young people living with adversity.

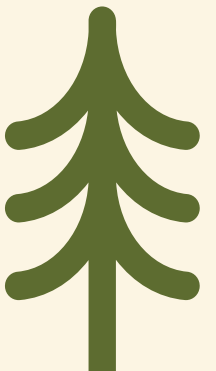




**“The staff support for us as his parents.  
We were always made to feel welcome”**



**“I miss it. When I visited it was like a  
second family. They always had time  
for a cuppa and a chat”**





# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## Family

What are we doing?



# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## **Scaffolding**

To increase the organisation's profile and influence by establishing a therapeutic practice model, with increased marketing, communications and fundraising.





# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## **Scaffolding**

What else are we doing?





# Harmeny's Promise: Strategic Areas



## Care & Education

To expand our core services, through developing care and learning services for young people aged 15+ already placed at Harmeny, alongside a service for former pupils.





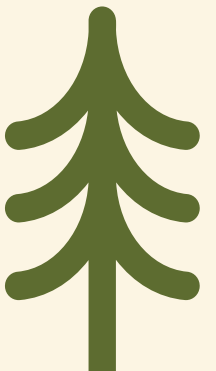
**“I wish Harmeny could have seen me through my secondary years”**



**“More time [at Harmeny] would have been good”**



**“Changing schools was difficult”**

**“I lost so much”**





**“It was essentially a transaction. This was home, but after I left I was no longer a customer”**

**“When I left there was nothing. I got two visits after I left and then nothing”**

**“It was all so sudden and it was like once I moved people didn’t even care”**



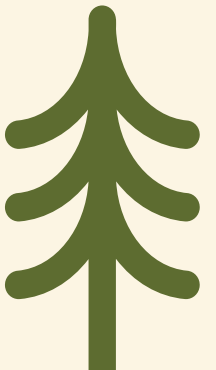


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# Ryan's story







# Acorn Project



# Caroline Cottage

# Caroline Cottage



**August 2021**

Design signed off

**January 2022**

Building warrant and contractor

**March 2022**

Construction commenced

**July 2022**

Caroline Cottage opened



**“Acorn is a good thing.  
It means I can stay at Harmeny”**

**“We decorated our own rooms and  
chose all the colours”**



**“I like having my own space.  
It’s not crowded”**





# Learning Hub

# Our Learning Hub



**October 2022**

Construction commenced.

**July 2023**

Fundraising appeal target reached

**August 2023**

Build completed

**October 2023**

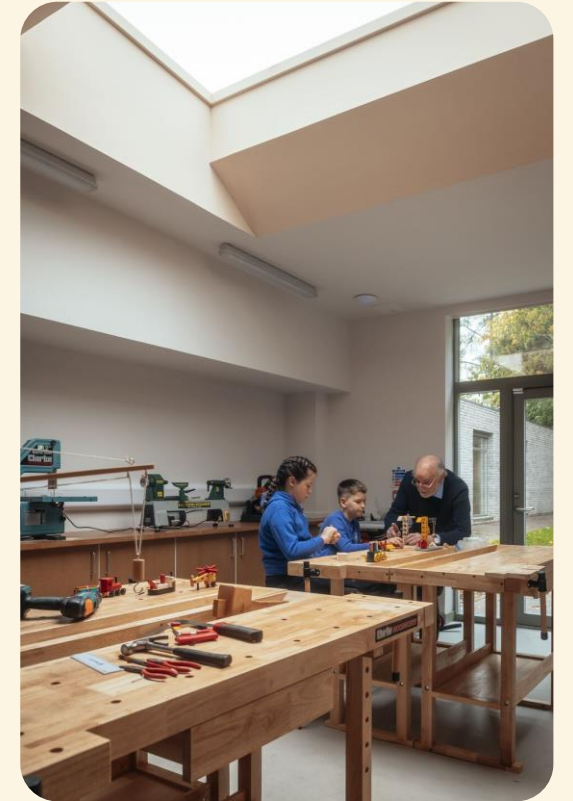
Learning Hub opened





**Harmeny**

# Our Learning Hub





**Harmeny Here4U**

# Harmeny Here4U



- **Three year project; 1 August 2022 – 31 July 2025.**
- **Funded by charitable trusts.**
- **Focus on positive transitions and ongoing continuing care/keeping in touch support.**
- **Evaluating the impact of Harmeny's approaches, practices and interventions.**
- **Prioritise those under 26 years old.**
- **Support any former pupil who makes contact; both HETL and Save the Children.**

- **Ensure that transitions are:** **Limited**  
**Relational**  
**Planned**  
**Informed**
- **Allow former pupils to maintain a connection with Harmeny.**
- **Provide ongoing support and signposting into adulthood.**
- **Evaluate the impact of Harmeny's support and interventions.**



# Our Aims

## 01

### Understand

Gain a better **understanding** of the support needs of our former pupils.

## 02

### Support

Implement strategies and approaches that better **support** our young people both in placement and post placement.

## 03

### Participate

Improve the engagement and **participation** of young people in service delivery and future developments.

## 04

### Research

Undertake **research** to gain a greater understanding of the impact of our services into adolescence and adulthood.

# Outcomes for young people

- 01** Increased resilience
- 02** Wider Support Network
- 03** Increased stability within placement
- 04** Sustained positive destinations
- 05** Improved life skills

# Some statistics

## In Scotland:

- In 2019, a quarter of those in prison were care experienced.
- Care experienced adults are twice as likely to have experienced homelessness by their 30<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Care experienced adults are 1.5 times more likely to experience multiple disadvantages, i.e. substance use, mental health difficulties, or being in conflict with the law.
- Care experienced adults are twice as likely to have no educational qualifications.



# Some statistics

## In Scotland:

- **12,206 children were 'looked after' on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023.**  
**Down 2% since 31 July 2022, and down 24% since 2013 (16,032).**
- **3,286 episodes of care ended in 2022-2023.**

# Some statistics

## In Scotland:

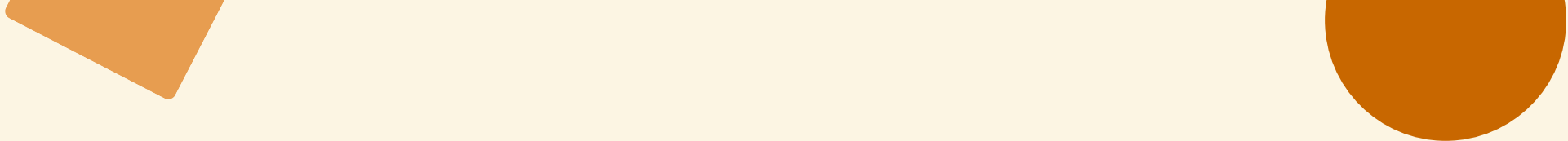
- Of 8,517 eligible for Aftercare support, around 51% were not receiving it.
- Care leavers aged 16 years old had the lowest number receiving Aftercare support (44%).



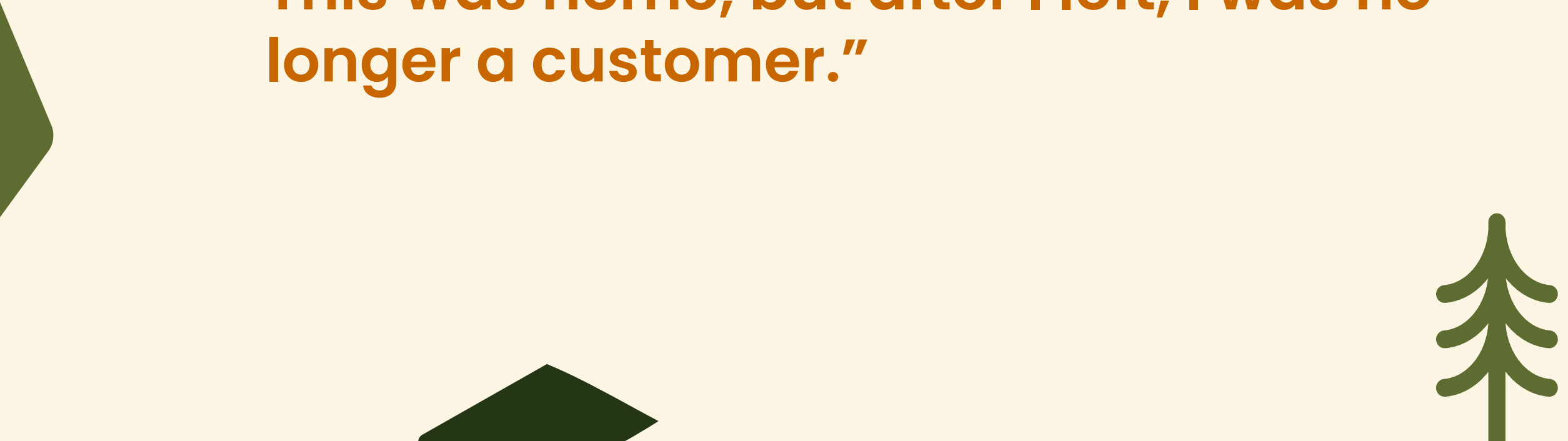
# Transition Support



# Support & Signposting



**“It was essentially a transaction.  
This was home, but after I left, I was no  
longer a customer.”**



# Case Study

- **Made aware of care-experienced bursary and put in touch with care-experienced team at college.**
- **Provided evidence of being care-experienced, now attending college (business).**
- **Assisted with housing application, and now has tenancy.**
- **Referral to Scottish Welfare fund for household white goods.**
- **Awarded £1,849 towards driving lessons from ILF Scotland.**



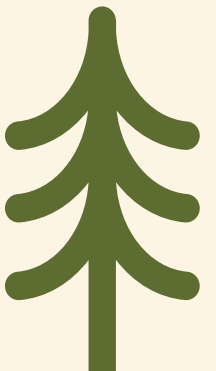
# Keeping in Touch



**“I missed staff at Harmeny, people I got on really well with”**

**“I don’t mind if people want to visit me.. I want to visit Harmeny”**

**“I’d like to keep in touch”**





# Maintaining Connections

- Regular visits to Harmeny by former pupils.
- Visits to former pupils in their areas.
- Planned events and participation , i.e. Sports Day, Christmas Show.
- Bespoke 'Keeping in Touch' (KIT) plans
- Greetings cards and texts.



# Evaluation



A word cloud centered around the theme of outdoor education. The words are arranged in a roughly rectangular shape, with 'outdoor-education' being the largest and most prominent. Other significant words include 'staff', 'class', 'music', 'woodwork', 'football', and 'environment'. Smaller words include 'relaxed', 'skatepark', 'firepits', 'atmosphere', 'camping', 'allotment', 'cottage', 'caravan', 'keyworker', 'keytimes', 'trust', 'woods', 'support', 'canoeing', 'climbing', 'burn-stomping', 'choir', and 'venchie'. The background is a light beige color with decorative orange and teal shapes in the corners.

relaxed  
skatepark firepits  
atmosphere  
**staff** camping allotment  
class cottage  
caravan  
keyworker keytimes **music**  
**outdoor-education**  
trust woods support  
canoeing **woodwork** climbing  
burn-stomping  
choir **football**  
venchie **environment**

# Evaluation

- **What could have been better?**
- **Feedback about transitions.**
- **What are things like for you now?**
- **What can we do to help you?**



# Helping Hand Scheme



**“Anything that helps Harmeny, I want to help if I can”**

**“I’d like to maybe help out”**



**“It would be good to help at Harmeny”**





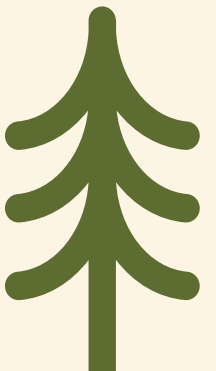
**Here4U Project: How are we doing?**



**“It feels like coming home... it’s nice to come back and talk about when I was a kid”**

**“It’s nice to know that people remember you”**

**“Here I can talk about the things I did as a kid, with the people that were there”**





# Special Moments



# Special Moments





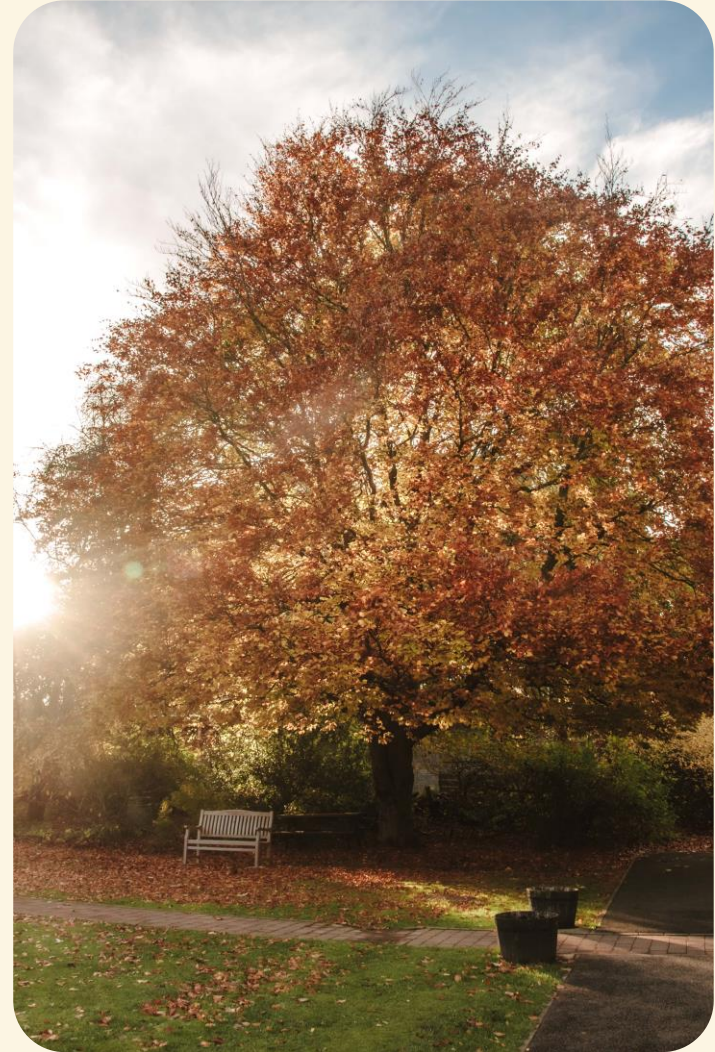
# Challenges

- Funding.
- Increased costs.
- Managing change.
- Workforce recruitment and retention.
- 'Love' in a care setting.

# Next Step: Acorn 3

2025 onwards

To extend our reach, through a learning and well-being service for young people living with adversity.



# The Promise: Plan 24-30

June 2024



**The Promise**

24

30



# Your Promise





**Harmeny**







# Harmeny Education Trust

Thank you!