

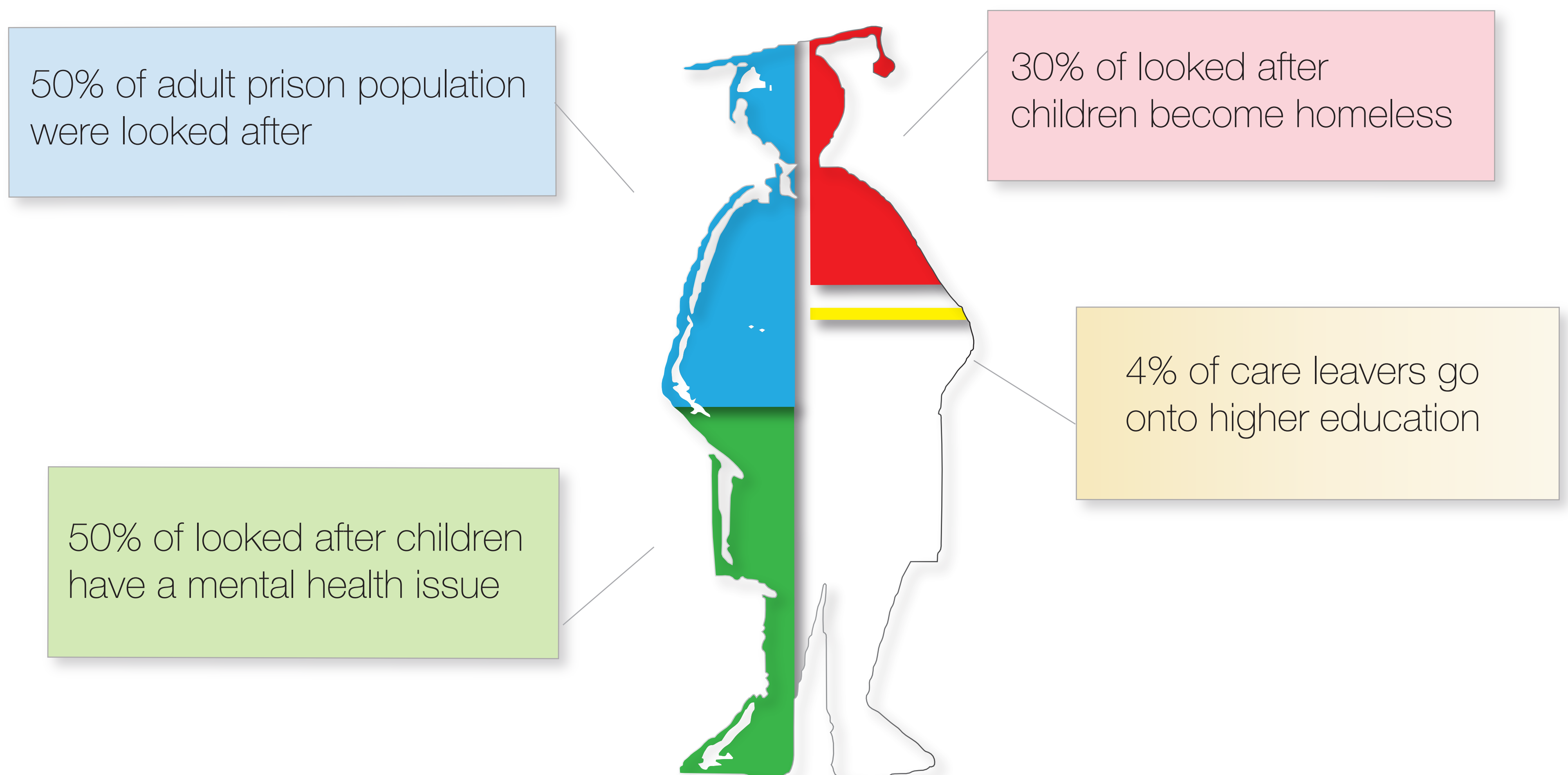
CORPORATE PARENTING AND UNIVERSITY

Up to and including 25 years of age, Corporate Parenting is:

“A public bodies’ performance of actions necessary to promote and support the physical, emotional, spiritual, social and cognitive development of a looked after child or care leaver, from infancy through to adulthood.”

Why Do We Care?

Evidence suggests young care leavers have the poorest outcomes of all children and young people in Scotland.



Edinburgh Napier University Commitments

Support for Living

Care Leaver bursary of up to £1000
Sensitive support and advice from Student Funding
365 day accommodation available irrespective of where care leavers live

Training for Staff

Short staff development sessions.
Guidelines for staff across the university

Admissions

Eligible for contextualised admissions policy
Individualised pre-entry support available for any student who discloses they have been in care

Networking

College staff working with care leavers
Linking with relevant statutory and voluntary organisations
Connecting with relevant support staff from other universities

Academic Support

Guidelines on working with care leavers available for all PDTs
One-to-one support from trained Student Learning Adviser (Student Learning, S&AS)

Building Aspirations

Support for travel costs
Recruitment activities accessible to care leavers
Recruitment information acknowledges commitment to care leavers

The poor life outcomes for many young people in care have been well documented.

“By Degrees: From Care to University” (Jackson, National Children’s Bureau, 2003).

The need to improve outcomes for young people leaving care is acknowledged in “Looked After Children and Young People: We Can and Must Do Better” (Scottish Executive, January 2007).

In the UK, the HE participation rate is around 40% for first time participants. For care leavers, HE participation is only 1 to 5% (UCAS Policy Unit, 2008). Since 2008, UCAS application forms have included a field which allows students to disclose if they have spent time in care.

Each university has a responsibility to respond to this information.