



2 June 2014

## April 2014 winner of The Share Foundation's '£1,000 at 18' competition announced

### New Stoller Award gives extra opportunities for young people in care in Greater Manchester

The Share Foundation is delighted to place the £1,000 award for its April 2014 '£1,000 at 18' competition into the winner's Junior ISA, set up for her as a result of the Department of Education's initiative to ensure that every young person in care starts adult life with a financial reserve and an improved ability to handle money.

Additionally, thanks to the generosity of the Stoller Charitable Trust and Norman Stoller CBE, there will be an additional set of these awards made for young people in care from the Greater Manchester area, who will also continue to be eligible for the national awards. The £50,000 donation from the Stoller Charitable Trust has also enabled a doubling of the initial Government contribution for all young people in care with Junior ISAs under the scheme from Oldham.

The '£1,000 at 18' competition is aimed at those aged 15-17 and requires entrants to state in no more than 250 words how they would make best use of £1,000 when they turn 18. Each month a winner is awarded £1,000 into their Junior ISA.

The judging panel was Tracey Bleakley, Chief Executive of *pfeg*, Ruth Kelly, former Secretary of State for Education and Trustee of The Share Foundation, and Gavin Oldham, Chair of The Share Foundation. They were impressed by the winner's resolve to achieve the necessary qualifications to become a dental nurse. She is 16 years old and from Warrington. Her entry read:

*"I am currently studying at Barrow Hall College situated in Warrington. The courses of which I am studying are: Biology and Chemistry. I hope to proceed further by studying a career in dentistry. From a young age I looked after my elderly grandmother and even provided care during her death whilst at the same time I was due to sit my GCSE's. From a young age I have always wanted to become either a dentist or a carer within that industry. I would definitely say that caring for my grandmother enabled me to aspire more to have a career within the caring sector. If I had £1,000 I would use that to contribute to pay for a course I need for my desired carer as a dental nurse. The course currently stands at £1,300 and with a deposit amounting to £599 to secure my place with the company offering this fantastic opportunity. Previously I did want to go to university to study Oral health science for 5 years. However the price and the thought of student debts amounting to over £45,000 seemed incredibly risky and I'd admit I became very worried. I stumbled across the dental nurse course after looking at different/ cost effective options for working within the dental industry. I have spoken to the company and they currently have spaces for this September but the only down fall is that I need to pay the deposit/ full amount in order to start the dental nurse course."*

A total of six runner-up awards of £250 were also made, for young people from East Sussex, Birmingham, Glasgow, Lancashire, Luton and Rochdale, reflecting the large number and quality of entries.

The Junior ISA scheme launched in November 2012 and achieved 100 per cent implementation across English and Welsh local authorities during its first year of operation. The Government provides an initial £200 to open each account; those eligible have been in care continuously for over one year and do not have a Child Trust Fund.

The Share Foundation, which runs the Junior ISA scheme for looked after children and young people, has so far enabled over 55,000 young people in care throughout the United Kingdom to benefit. It provides financial education materials and raises additional voluntary contributions to boost account values, in order to give young people in care a better start to adult life.

The wide range of entries received for the '£1,000 at 18' competition is also providing first-hand evidence to donors of the determination of these young people to put the money to good use.

Full details of the scheme can be found at [www.sharefound.org/home/your-junior-isa/your-age-15-17](http://www.sharefound.org/home/your-junior-isa/your-age-15-17).

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### **Notes to editors**

Just before Budget 2011, the Chancellor George Osborne announced a new initiative to provide every child or young person in care for at least one year continuously with a Junior ISA, initially to be opened with a £200 Government contribution.

The Share Foundation was appointed in early 2012 to operate the scheme, open and administer the accounts as recognised contact, provide financial education with the help of *pfeg*, the Personal Finance Education Group, and raise additional voluntary contributions to increase the value of accounts.

The scheme operates by The Share Foundation inviting Local Authorities to submit data for account-opening. The Share Foundation has enabled over 55,000 to benefit from the scheme since launch in November 2012.

Donations are welcome to boost account values for young people in care with Junior ISAs. As a registered charity The Share Foundation is able to make full tax reclaims and 100% of all donations go to increasing these account values, as all fund-raising costs are met by a benefactor. All '£1,000 at 18' awards are funded by voluntary donations to The Share Foundation.

The local authorities within the Greater Manchester area whose looked after young people will benefit from the Stoller Award are Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford City, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan.

Further information can be found at [www.sharefound.org](http://www.sharefound.org)