

A YOUTH GUIDE TO PARENTING

These words were written by a young person in Youthline Youth Development Programme Voice!

Responsibility

Give us a chance to prove to you that we can be responsible.

Respect

Treat us like you'd like to be treated. Respect our opinions.

Trust

Don't judge us just because we are teenagers, we all have different personalities and opinions. Not all of us are bad.

Give us a chance

To make mistakes, learn from experience and to explain our opinion/side of the situation.

Care

Let us know you care and stand up for our youths ideas and problems, address them, let people hear your voice.

Support

We need support, we need to be reassured that we are doing the right thing and supported so our ideas can be heard.

Understanding

Listen to what we have to say and understand that we have stresses and problems too. Although they may seem insignificant to you, they are big to us, being a teenager is not easy, understand this.

Balance

Don't leave us totally alone, we need you to catch us if we fall, but give us our space to make our own decisions, this way we are more likely to ask for advice and respect your opinion.

Give us praise

When we do things that are good or make the right decisions. Congratulate us on achievements.

Freedom

It may be hard, but let us go. We have to leave our own footprints and make our own decisions and mistakes. Part of growing up is finding out who we are, what we value and what we need as a person. Only we alone can make that journey.

