



## Voice 4 U Care Awards

The 'Voice 4 U' Care Awards is an annual event that pays tribute to looked after children/young people, foster carers and professionals. The evening is a huge celebration of the achievements of children in care. On the night individuals were awarded with achievement certificates and had the opportunity to have their photograph taken with the Mayor of Bolton. Special awards were also handed out to young people, such as, Care Leaver of the Year, Young Person of the Year. Along with cheering on Bolton's young people receiving awards, various acts, made up of looked after children and young people, perform on stage throughout the night. This year some of the acts included solo singers, juggling and dance groups. Craft tables with different themes/topics, were also available for children and young people to use throughout the evening.

Given that this year, the award ceremony coincided with the promotion/launch of MOMO Monday's, we thought it would be an ideal opportunity to not only do something special for this, but to promote the App to a wide and varied audience, with the hope of increasing awareness and ultimately, the numbers accessing MOMO.

We decided to hold a 'Create your own Emoji' station where young people crafted their own emoji using a range of materials and resources. This proved to be a huge hit with plenty of creative participants, designing and making such wonderful emoji's. Young people took their creations home after we had taken pictures and got an Action for Children goodie bag, containing a few treats and an MOMO information leaflet - the children were delighted with these! Throughout the event we walked around and handed out extra goodie bags and leaflets to young people, foster carers and professionals, briefly explaining what the App is about and the benefits it can bring to people who use it.



Below is a short statement from a young person who helped to facilitate the emoji station on the night -

“The event was about acknowledging children’s achievement’s, it takes place because young people deserve recognition for what they do and what they’ve accomplished.

We set up a stall to raise awareness for the MOMO app, our table was filled with creative stuff such as; coloured pens, pencils, etc. we got all the young people to make an emoji of their choosing and gave out goody bags with leaflets about the MOMO app inside, we also explained to carers and parents what the app was and why it is here.

Overall the night was a success and we even had people coming up and asking a variety of questions”.

*Ashleigh*

*Young Person, age 17*

