

Young care leavers have a one in three chance of losing their first home. Once that goes, many have to join the back of the one million plus social housing waiting list.

A lack of expert-led financial education and other life pressures, increases the risk of homelessness and prolonged living in unsuitable temporary accommodation.

The Money House (TMH) seeks to prevent this. A financial education programme, run by experts from the charity MyBnk, teaches young people, about to move into their first home, how to afford the cost of living, and keep a roof over their heads.

## Hawa, 20



"I got referred here by my social worker. Every young person leaving care in Newham has to do before they get to move out.

I actually learned a lot at The Money House because before I came here, if I was given my leaving care flat tomorrow, I would have just walked in not understanding the legal tenancy or anything like that. I would have just walked in and just signed off everything, and been like, whatever.

I probably would have got kicked out a couple of months down the line.

Thankfully now I know how not to do that, I understand I have to read all the small print in everything, and take my time. Before I would have just rushed in and not really paid attention to what I was doing.

The two teachers that we had they made everything fun and not boring, and it wasn't just black and white and writing, they interacted with us, they played games. I really enjoy knowing that I could walk away today, be given my flat tomorrow I go in feeling more confident, and like I don't have to stress about it because I know what to do and not what to do now, and if I do need help, where to go.

My advice to those thinking about coming here. Make sure you attend all the days because each day you learn something new. You might think you're coming here for no reason but at the end of the day, they're here to help you and advise you on how to live more independently. You will know the rules and not just go into everything without not knowing what you're doing. The other advice I would give is to take in as much information as you can, and really just enjoy it!"

Watch Hawa's story on [YouTube](#).

For more information on The Money House and to find out how you can refer a young person, visit our [website](#) or contact [themoneyhouse@mybnk.org](mailto:themoneyhouse@mybnk.org).

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