

HULL FOSTERING

Statement of Purpose and Function



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Introduction

It is a requirement of the National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services and the Fostering Services Regulations that each Fostering Service produces a Statement of Purpose, which includes its aims and objectives.

This Statement of Purpose sets out what services are provided for children and young people who are placed by the Fostering Service. It also provides information regarding the principles and standards of care expected of the Fostering Service.

The Statement of Purpose will be reviewed and revised annually. OFSTED will be notified regarding any such revision within 28 days. Copies of the revision will be made available to approved foster carers and children placed by Hull Fostering Service.

A copy of the Statement of Purpose will be made available to any person working for the fostering service, any foster carer or prospective foster carer, any child or young person who is being fostered or the parent of the child.

Hull Fostering is committed to treating all children and their families, foster carers, staff and colleagues using the service in a fair and respectful way, giving positive regard to their differences and individuality.

Hull Fostering pledges to ensure equal access to services regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or disability.

1. Hull Fostering Management Structure

Niki Clemo

Corporate Director Children, Young People
& Families Services

Rachel Donnachie

Assistant Director

Michele Priest

Head of Service

(Responsible Individual)

Judith Dent

Group Manager

Fostering and Commissioning

(Registered Manager)

Kelly Rispin - Jayne Betts - Michelle Colrein - Sophie Stevens
Fostering Team Managers

2. The Service's Current Strategy

Hull Fostering aims to provide a local, family based care option for any child who needs to be looked after in Hull. The strategy encompasses the comprehensive support framework available to children and their foster carers. This is designed to maximise the input of multi agency support packages – residential children's homes staff, education, health and other partner services. This intervention is aimed at minimising the number of placement moves and to ensure that the child's long term interests are met.

Hull Fostering recruits, trains and assesses prospective foster carers including connected persons carers and also supported lodgings providers. Foster carers are prepared for the fostering task with high quality training and, once approved, they continue to be supported, trained and assisted in their development by Hull Fostering.

The service works closely with the Localities and the Looked After Children's teams including the Pathway and Leaving Care Teams, residential workers in Children's Homes, Health services including CAMHS, Education/ schools and others to ensure that children are placed as appropriately as possible and that the care offered, is of as high a standard as possible, according to the needs of individual children.

There are foster carers offering a wide range of support and care to looked after children and children in need. There are also a small number of parent and child placements whereby these can be placed together and the parent can be assessed and supported by the mainstream foster carer to meet the needs of the child. Supported lodgings provides suitable placements which assist young people to progress towards their independence, including for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC).

The core of the foster carer population is currently referred to as *mainstream* foster carers. These carers are approved and registered for a particular number, age, and sex of child/ren and are paid an allowance for the care, nurturing and maintenance of the child/ren placed with them. There is also a cohort of Support Care carers who offer placements to support families in the community including those where the child/ren are on the edge of coming into care. In addition, Hull Fostering has a Fostering Excellence payment scheme, which is a payment for skills with rates of fees to each carer according to their skills and experience.

Other registered carers offer support and care on a more limited basis, this often being more compatible with their lifestyle, including respite and support care. These carers are a valuable and nurturing resource for looked after children and those living with their families.

Within this cohort of carers Hull Fostering are developing provision to cover emergency provision such as for those young people remanded into Local Authority care or entering the care system in an emergency for a short period of time. Hull Fostering is also recruiting to further develop our cohort of carers who are trained and skilled in caring for disabled children and/or those with additional physical/emotional needs.

The service also assesses and supports Connected Persons who foster children whom they know through family, friends or other connections (such as child related work). These carers are identified by the child care teams when a child needs to come into care and the "viability" of them as prospective carers is assessed before the fostering service completes a full fostering assessment of them. Connected persons may be Temporarily Registered as foster carers if the child is placed whilst their fostering assessment is completed. There is a dedicated team who supports these carers until the child either returns home to parents' care or they are able to progress to achieving a legal order for the child to remain with them long-term (permanence).

3 Aims, objectives and principles of Hull Fostering

It is our strategic aim to deliver a high quality, cost effective fostering service to accommodate the needs of Hulls' looked after child and young people population and those in need of additional support to remain living with their families.

We aim to:

- Value, support and encourage children and young people to develop and grow positively as individuals; as well as promoting health and general well-being, the service is committed to ensuring that foster carers are encouraged to help children and young people reach their full potential and to have high aspirations for them;
- Make the right placement for a child from the first day they become looked after;
- Ensure fostering staff are supported through quality supervision, training and development, enabling them to themselves to offer high quality supervision to carers and embed fostering standards;
- Ensure that all foster carers receive pro-active support and opportunities;
- Continuously improve our placement support strategy, including individualised packages of assistance, to enhance children's quality of life and life chances, and to base future planning and service delivery on the needs and views of local looked after children, their families and carers.
- Ensure that all children have a clear permanence plan that gives them security and stability throughout their childhood, and we support foster carers, including Connected Persons, to apply for Special Guardianship Orders to achieve this when it is deemed the right for the child.

It is Hull Fostering's primary objective to comply with the National Minimum Standards 2011 and Fostering Services Regulations 2011, issued by the Secretary of State under sections 23 and 49 of the Care Standards Act 2002.

To achieve this primary objective and have high quality opportunities for looked after children, the Fostering Service makes the following commitments.

"You don't need any special qualifications to Foster with us, just a passion for caring for a child, having time and patience to enable them grow and develop in a safe environment while in care for a short time or until they grow up" Hull Fostering Team

4 The Foster Carer Charter

Hull Fostering has adopted the principles of the National Foster Carer Charter 2011.

Children come first

- Children in foster care deserve to experience as full a family life as possible as part of a loving foster family with carers who can make everyday decisions as they would for their own child so that children can have an normal a childhood as possible.
- Children must be given every support to develop their own identities and aspirations, fulfill their potential, meet their cultural and ethnic needs, and take advantage of all opportunities to promote their talents and skills. Above all, they should be listened to and their wishes and feelings should influence how we deliver our services.

Local authorities and fostering services must

- Recognise in practice the importance of the child's relationship with his or her foster family as one that can make the biggest difference in the child's life and which can endure into adulthood.
- Listen to, involve foster carers and their foster and birth children in decision-making and planning, and provide foster carers and their foster children with full information about each other.
- In making placements, be clear about the continuing care or support needs there will be (including for the child into adulthood e.g. Staying Put), be sensitive to the needs of the foster carer and the child in making and ending placements and have contingency plans should the placement not work.
- Treat foster carers with openness, fairness and respect as core members of the team around the child and support them in making reasonable and appropriate decisions on behalf of their foster child.
- Ensure that foster carers have the support services and development opportunities they need in order to provide their foster child with the best possible care. That includes liaising with local foster carers groups and seeking to respond to problems and disseminate best practice.
- Make sure foster carers are recompensed in a timely manner and they are given clear information about any support, allowances, fees, and resources they will receive including in cases of dispute with the service or during gaps in placements.

Foster carers must

- Provide positive adult role models, treat the foster child as they would their own child, and be a "pushy parent" in advocating for all aspects of the child's development, including educational attainment and physical and emotional health and wellbeing, and co-operate fully as part of a team with other key professionals in the child's life.
- Support their foster child and do all they can to make the placement work. Take part in learning and development, use skills and approaches that make a positive impact and enable the child to reach his or her potential. Support their foster child to help them to counter possible bullying and discrimination as a result of their care status.

Our principles are based on our equal opportunities statement

The Fostering Service will work in a way that is non-discriminatory and respects ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, religion and ability. Information about prospective and registered foster carers and their families will be treated confidentially. The service will also operate within the Council's "Access to Information" Policy and under the Freedom of Information Act and data protection legislation.

5 Children's Guide

Subject to the child or young person's age and understanding, the Fostering Service ensures that they receive the Children's Guide at the point of placement and that the foster carer explains the contents of the Children's Guide in a way that is accessible.

The Children's Guide includes a summary of what the fostering service sets out to do for children, how they can find out their rights, how a child can contact their Independent Reviewing Officer, the Children's Commissioner or Ofsted if they wish to raise a concern with inspectors, and how to secure access to an independent advocate.

Where a child requires it, the guide is available, where appropriate, through suitable alternative methods of communication, e.g. Makaton, pictures, tape recording or translation into another language.

The Children's guide also provides information on useful contacts as listed below:

📍 Children's Commissioner	
Website:	www.children'scommissioner.gov.uk
Address:	Anne Longfield, Children's Commissioner England Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street London SW1P 3BT
Telephone:	020 77838330
Freephone children's helpline:	0800 528 0731
📍 Department of Education	
Website:	www.education.gov.uk
Address:	Children in Care Division Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London W1P 3BT
📍 Ofsted	
Website:	www.ofsted.gov.uk
Address:	Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester M1 2WD
Telephone:	0300 123 1231
Email:	enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

6 Types of Fostering provided:

6.1 Overview

The fostering service approves foster carers to look after children aged 0-18 years. Many of the children placed have experienced difficulties including abuse or neglect before being fostered. Some children and young people present with very challenging behaviour, special needs or complex health conditions.

Hull Fostering recruits, assesses and trains prospective foster carers and supports them when they attend at the Hull City Council's foster panel. The range and number of different types of fostering provision ensures flexibility in meeting children's individual needs.

Approved foster carers are supervised, supported and monitored by our Fostering Social Workers; the foster carers are also supported by other Fostering staff such as Fostering Administrative staff, Support Workers and the Placement and Commissioning Team.

Foster carers' annual, three yearly and *ad hoc* (following concerns or allegations) Reviews are chaired by Independent Fostering Reviewing Officers (IFROs) who are line managed alongside the children's IROs. The Fostering Team and the IFROs work closely to improve services to foster carers and children.

There is a dedicated fostering training officer who ensures a comprehensive package of training which is delivered in a flexible and accessible manner.

Financial allowances are paid to foster carers above the national recommended rates for each child. These allowances may be supported by additional 'skill' payments to foster carers for three separate skill bands. Additional payments are available to support foster carers depending on the needs of the child, such as setting up costs, equipment and mileage costs.

In order to ensure children are appropriately placed, their needs are met and their outcomes are improved, the fostering team's staff work closely with a range of other professionals that include: children's social workers, children's Independent Reviewing Officers, children's home staff, health service and educational staff. These include a CAMHS service for children looked after (CLA), a CLA children's nurse and the Virtual School for CLA.

6.2 Mainstream fostering

'Mainstream' is a term used to describe foster carers who are approved for a particular number, age and gender of child/ren. Placements may be for:

- Short/emergency term care – temporary care whilst assessment and care planning is carried out or until a crisis is resolved.
- Medium-term care – whilst legal proceedings or a longer term birth family crisis is resolved.
- Long-term care – more permanent care for children with a plan of permanence through foster care. These carers often become approved as "Long Term" carers for a certain child, which gives the child/young person greater security and a sense of "belonging". We encourage and support foster carers providing long-term placements to apply for permanence orders (SGOs) for the children in these placements.

6.3 Respite Carers

Respite carers provide support to fostering households in a number of ways. They may offer regular planned respite to fostered children. They may offer day care to children placed with other foster carers either on a planned basis or in an emergency situation, or they could provide a temporary home for children who become looked after for a short period of time. Carers can be approved as both mainstream and respite carers and this is reflected in their approval.

6.4 Connected Persons foster carers

Connected Persons carers are usually relatives of the child, friends of their family or known to the child in another capacity such as having worked with them in school or a youth service. This type of fostering increases placement choice and is the first option to be explored for children who cannot remain in their parents care, enabling them to be cared for people with whom they are already familiar. The aim is to meet the local authority's statutory obligations with regard to relatives and friends approved as carers. Our support to this specialist care option includes a range of services to relatives and friends to ensure continuity of care for children. We work with these carers to build links for them in the local community and develop appropriate support for themselves and the children. The Connected Persons Team supports these carers and helps them to make decisions and move towards longer term legal permanency options for the children and young people for whom they care. There is specific training and a specific support group for these carers.

6.5 Support Care Fostering

This scheme offers places for children who primarily live at home with their families. Support care is offered with local foster carers who by offering support, help to keep children and families together. The Support Care Team aims to provide a positive experience for children and families by offering choice, respect and dignity. The emphasis is to work together in partnership in a safe and child centred way.

6.6 Parent Assessment and Support Team (PAST) placements

Hull Fostering also provides fostering or supported lodgings placements that are part of the wider, multi-disciplinary Parenting Assessment and Support Team (PAST). Family based care options are considered when a more intensive assessment of parents' ability to care for their child/ren is needed. The foster carers are trained to observe interaction between the parent/s and the child/ren alongside offering practical guidance to the parents. Foster carers' assessments form part of the overall assessment that is presented to the courts as part of legal proceedings alongside of a specialised Parent Assessment Manual Software (PAMS) assessment.

6.7 Supported Lodgings, Leaving Care and Staying Put

The Leaving Care team supports young people from the age of 16 to 25 years of age in the transition from care to independence and offers support and advice when they leave care. The Council offers a range of accommodation options for young people leaving care including supported housing, group living and supported lodgings (both Hull CC and through other providers). Foster carers can continue to care for young people after the age of 16 years under the Supported Lodgings or Staying Put arrangements delivered by Hull Fostering. Foster carers can have dual status as registered Foster Carers and approved Supported Lodgings providers. Foster carers can also be approved specifically for a young person under the Staying Put scheme and continue to be supported by their allocated Fostering Social Worker if they continue to be a registered foster carer for other children.

7 Management, Staffing and the Service Structure of Hull Fostering

7.1 The Fostering Service is organised, managed and staffed in a manner that delivers the best possible child care and support to foster carers. It is ultimately accountable to the elected members and the Chief Executive of Hull City Council.

7.2 The strategic lead is provided by the Head of Service responsible for Resources, and she reports to the Assistant Director for Children's Services.

7.3 The service has four Fostering Team Manager posts, two of whom focus on mainstream foster care, one on recruitment and assessment and the fourth on connected persons and post order support. These managers directly manage the operational activities of the Fostering Service. They report to and are accountable to the Group Manager who is, in turn, directly accountable to the Head of Service referred to above. The Agency Decision Maker function for all Approvals, De-registrations and Fostering Reviews is undertaken off-line by the Group Manager for Children with Disabilities Team. The Group Manager for Fostering currently considers Out of Approval/ Exemption decisions and also chairs the Supported Lodgings Panel.

7.4 Levels of delegated responsibility are clearly documented and understood by all staff.

7.5 Each member of staff has a clear job description, completed in accordance with Job Evaluation processes and these have been reviewed and refreshed in 2019. These job descriptions clearly outline the tasks and responsibilities of the posts, and the skills and knowledge required to carry them out effectively.

7.6 Each foster carer has a designated Fostering Social Worker who provides regular supervision and whose responsibilities and accountabilities are clearly defined.

7.7 As part of Hull City Council, the fostering team has access to support and services of a range of specialist staff which includes:

- Legal advisors
- Medical advisor
- Principal Social Worker
- Specialist foster carer training officer
- Independent Fostering Reviewing Officers
- CAMHS service for CLA
- Clinician within the fostering team
- Virtual School for CLA
- Human Resources officers
- Health and Safety Officers
- Administrative support service staff
- Voice and Influence team for children and young people
- Recruitment and Marketing Officer
- Finance officers

8 Personnel

Hull Fostering

Michele Priest – Head of Service
(Responsible Individual)

Judith Dent – Group Manager
(Registered Manager)

Fostering Managers (4)

Fostering Admin staff (3.5 fte)

Recruitment and Marketing Officer

Placement Finding Team

Fostering Social Worker (1)

Fostering Support Worker (1)

Mainstream Fostering Team

Advanced Fostering Social Worker (2)

Fostering Social Workers* (12.5)

*including 1 specialist Disability FSW

Assessment Team

Advanced Fostering Social Worker (1)

Fostering Social Workers (7.5)

Fostering Support Workers (2)

Supported Lodgings

Supporting Lodgings Workers (3)

Support Care Team

Fostering Social Workers (2)

Connected Persons/ Post Order Team

Advanced Fostering Social Worker (1)

Social Workers (5.5)

Parent Assessment and Support

Social Workers (2)

Foster Panel

Foster Panel Support Officers (1.5)

9 Recruiting, Approving and Reviewing Foster Carers

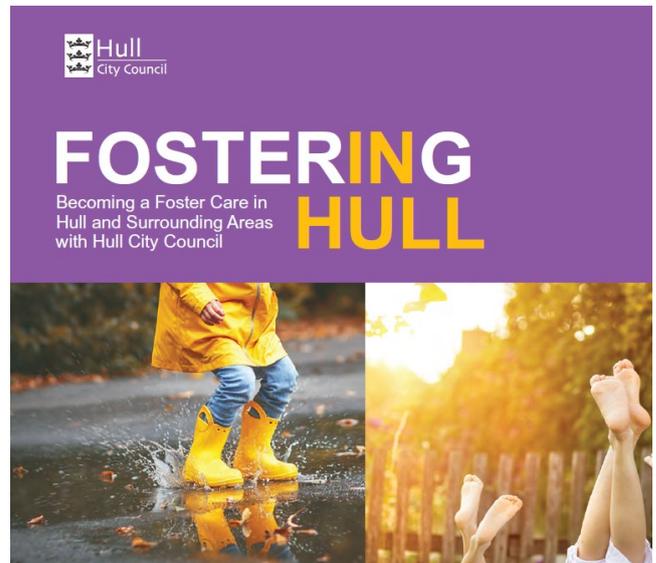
The following is a summary of the procedure for the recruitment, assessment and approval of foster carers.

Information is easily available and understandable for people to make an informed choice. Information is available from a variety of sources including:

- Community groups and voluntary bodies
- Local hospitals, doctors' surgeries and clinics
- Other Social Services and Council premises
- Colleges, schools and universities
- Local social care offices e.g. Kenworthy House, Brunswick House, Midmere Centre
- Housing Offices
- Places of worship
- Shopping malls and supermarkets
- Leisure Centres and Libraries
- Current approved foster carers

Information is currently available in standard glossy leaflet format. If required it can also be made available in large print, audio and Braille for those with special needs and a variety of languages other than English.

Hull Fostering produces only marketing material that shows, and evidences clearly our commitment to equalities and removing the barriers to accessing our services by all families in the community.



There is a fostering website, www.hull.gov.uk/fostering. The fostering web site provides information about fostering, types of fostering, help and support and allows those wishing to make further enquiries to apply for information on line. This request is then fed through to a Fostering Support Worker who sends out an information pack within 48 hours. The enquirer's details are logged and followed-up within 5 working days.

E-mail addresses have also been set up to contact Hull Fostering on-line and for when people complete the application form on the web site. The e-mail address is Fostering@hullcc.gov.uk

Furthermore, Hull Fostering now has an outward facing Facebook page which allows members of the public to see some information about fostering in Hull and allows them to ask basic questions or request an information pack. This form of communication is becoming ever more popular and is proving to be the preferred communication format for prospective foster carers whom wish to enquire or ask a question regarding recruitment.

10 Recruitment Flow Chart

The Hull Fostering Recruitment Process*



Stage 1 Commences

Fostering enquiry received, information pack sent including the types of fostering schemes and other information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)



Initial telephone call by fostering support worker to answer further questions



Fostering Support Worker makes in-depth call to clarify interest and explain process



Home Visit by a Fostering Support Worker;
Statutory checks begun including DBS and medical



Stage 2 Commences

Full Assessment undertaken by Fostering Social Worker (Assessment)
Approx. 4 - 6 months



Pre-approval Training is completed before Foster Panel



Attend the Hull Foster Panel



Final decision made by Agency Decision Maker



Foster carer is approved - confirmation letter received; 28 days to appeal if relevant



**Hull Fostering aims to complete this process within 26 weeks*

11 Support for Foster Carers

11.1 Post Approval

All foster carers are allocated a named, qualified Social Worker as their key contact with Hull Fostering. The Fostering Social Worker has frequent contact with the carers and carries out supervision looking at practice, offering advice, support and discussion about training needs through the Fostering Excellence Scheme. All carers are enrolled on induction training that can take up to 18 months to complete. This training is evidenced through a portfolio which has been designed to reflect exactly the standards set for carers in by the Training Support and Development Standards (TSDS). Carers are encouraged to participate in identifying their support and development needs, helping to shape the Fostering Service's training and development programmes. Experience and participation in training will increase skill and confidence in our foster carers and ensure they are better able to understand and respond to the complex needs of looked after children and their families.

11.2 Reviews

All foster carer households are reviewed on an annual basis. This will include obtaining written information from children's Social Workers about the carers' practice over the past year, written feedback from any children living in the household (birth children and looked after children) and feedback from the foster carers regarding their past year's fostering. The review will also consider the training and development needs of the foster carers and their family. An Independent Fostering Reviewing Officer (IFRO) chairs the Review. The IFRO is responsible for the co-ordination and chairing of foster carers' annual,

Once the Review is completed, annual reviews with change, three yearly reviews and *ad hoc* reviews (following allegations or significant concerns) are presented to the Foster Panel who make a recommendation about the carers' continued registration. Annual Reviews with no change are passed straight to the Agency Decision Maker to ratify or amend as appropriate. This is co-ordinated by the Panel Support Officer. Every three years the review will include updated DBS checks, medical checks, reference requests and visits plus other statutory checks.

11.3 Health and emotional wellbeing

Support and advice is available from the CAMHS service for looked after children which works directly with children, foster carers, Fostering Social Workers and children's Social Workers.

Activities include:

- Attachment awareness sessions.
- Home visits to assist with the matching process.
- Consultancy sessions
- Understanding challenging behaviour.
- Working alongside carers to respond to placement difficulties.
- Access to specialised services through CAMHS provision.
- Referrals are received via Fostering Social Workers.

11.4 Independent Support Service

This service is commissioned by Hull Fostering and provided by Fostering Network. The service provides independent support, advice and advocacy for foster carers who are the subject of a complaint or allegation. They also provide an independent mediation and representation service for foster carers who are in conflict with the Local Authority or have made a complaint against Hull Fostering. Fostering Network are also commissioned to provide all our fostering households with a full membership package including free legal and tax advice, and we procure organisational support from them for staff to obtain practice advice and attend regional forums.

11.5 Fostering Support Groups

Five locality-based Fostering Support groups and a Connected Persons' coffee morning group offer support, information and advice across our foster carers. They allow foster carers to share their experiences and develop a network with other carers in their local area. The meetings are monthly and are an invaluable opportunity to hear about new fostering developments. Hull Fostering also offers a male only carers support group. Each group is coordinated by a member of Hull Fostering and a foster carer leader. One carer from each group represents them on the Foster Carer Consultation Group.

11.6 Foster Carer Consultation Group

Hull Fostering is committed to ensuring that the voice of foster carers locally feeds into our policies, practice, recruitment and retention activities, and that carers are involved in the direction of travel for our services. The Foster Carer Consultation Group is a vital part of our Quality Assurance Framework. The group is made up of foster carers from the local support groups alongside carers with specialist knowledge, experience or interests. We aim to reflect the fostering population and to give the carers a voice which can directly influence policy and practice locally.

11.7 Group for Children Whose Parents Foster

Hull Fostering aims to have a support group for Children who Foster and the group aims to meet every school holiday and undertake activities both indoor and outdoor, as well as providing a forum for mutual support to children who foster. There has been a lack of take-up of this group by children of foster carers and the Covid 19 situation has further hindered it hence we aim to do more work undertaken in 2020/21 to reinvigorate the activities of this group to ensure children of foster carers have a voice and space to share their experiences.

11.8 Vehicle Provision

Hull Fostering has a commitment to supporting foster carers, whenever possible, to hire appropriately sized vehicles to meet the needs of their families and their fostered children for family holidays and outings for a maximum of 14 days in a given financial year (April to March).

11.9 Training and Development for Foster Carers

Training for prospective foster carers starts with pre approval training which comprises of 3-6 sessions in preparation for a looked after child being placed within the household. Training is slightly different for Connected Persons foster carers, acknowledging the differences in their positions and needs.

Foster carers thereafter are expected to show a commitment to their ongoing development and practice and their attendance at training contributes to their development of their Portfolio for

evidencing their “skills” level which links to skills based payments. Foster carers also have the opportunity to complete the Level 3 Diploma for the Children and Young People’s Workforce. Carers’ training and development needs are reviewed and recorded and they are encouraged to contribute to the developments and improvement of training opportunities for carers.

All training for foster carers has been developed in accordance with the UK National Standards for Foster Carers, the National Minimum Care Standards, the Common Core Skills and Knowledge and the Children’s Workforce Development Strategy.

11.10 Special Events for Foster Carers

A number of social events are organised for fostering households and the children in their care, throughout the year. This includes activities which are discounted such as Flamingo Land and theatre/ pantomime trips, through to more structured events such as summer and Christmas Parties. Celebration events are held to acknowledge the work and commitment of our foster carers, both on a group basis and to mark events such as retirements after lengthy fostering careers. We provide long service awards and awards for children’s achievements.

11.11 Supervision and Support

All foster carers are allocated a named Fostering Social Worker who will provide them with regular supervision, advice and support. The focus will be on assisting with career development and aiding access to appropriate information and training to equip foster carers to provide the best quality of care to the children they look after. We have two levels of support to our carers which reflects the sort of support and guidance needed at different times in their fostering careers. High Support offers a named worker who will visit at least every month and will contact the carers at least fortnightly. This worker will support and guide the carers in meetings and contributing to planning or training. For new carers this is supplemented with the offer of an experienced foster carer mentor.

Low Support offers a named worker to visit for supervision every other month and will be available to them on the phone when required. They will support carers at meetings, if required, and will offer the full range of support services according to the carers’ needs. These levels of support are discussed and agreed with the carer and confirmed in the worker’s supervision with their line manager.

11.12 Out of Hours Support

Out of hours support is currently provided by the Emergency Duty Team who can be contacted on (01482) 300304. In addition to this, Foster carers have access to the Edge of Care telephone support service, provided by Hull City Council’s Edge of Care children’s home, which provides outreach support in emergencies. The aim is to provide both practical and professional support to maintain children in their existing placement thus creating stability and security. A new dedicated Out of Hours service provided by Fostering Social Workers is due to be launched on 4th January 2021, following consultation with foster carers and staff.

11.13 Independent Visitors

The organisation **Change, Grow, Live** is an independent service which recruits, trains and supports volunteers to be independent visitors who befriend and visit children who are Looked After. They are also located at Kenworthy House where the Fostering Service offices are, and provide part of the integrated provision to Children Looked After.

11.14 National Youth Advocacy Service

NYAS are commissioned by Hull CC to provide advocates for children in receipt of our services, on an “issue” basis i.e. to support them in representing their views at child protection conferences or CLA Reviews or with complaints on specific matters.



Hull
City Council

Contact Details:

Address: Hull City Council Fostering Service, Floor 3, 98-104 George Street, Hull,
East Yorkshire, HU1 3DT
Tel: 01482 612800
Web: www.hull.gov.uk/fostering
Email: Fostering@hullcc.gov.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/hullfostering