



Nottinghamshire
County Council

Nottinghamshire Foster Carers'

Learning & Development Plan 2011-2012



Welcome to the Learning Directory!

This directory has been designed to support you in your continued learning and development as foster carers. We are not in a position to provide many training events this year but we have linked up, with other training providers, to signpost you to a diverse range of events and, if a cost is involved in your attendance, we will help you with these costs...within reason! Similarly, if you identify a training event, that is taking place in the community and you would like to attend, we will help you with the costs of attendance...again, within reason! Sometimes, it will be possible for a training provider to come to a support meeting and to deliver a learning event to a group of foster carers. If you would like to know more about this, contact the training provider to find out if this would be possible.

All foster carers are required to evidence a minimum of twenty hours learning every year. This evidence can be provided in a number of creative ways! Your supervising social worker will help you to identify your learning needs, and how these will be met, when s/he completes your personal development plan with you.

However, whatever and wherever you learn, enjoy!

Jayne Austin

Jayne Austin
Service Manager (Fostering)



Welcome to the 2011/12 foster carers' learning & development directory. As foster carers' we can do our best for the children we look after if we keep ourselves up to date and seek out ideas and support wherever they are offered! In this directory you will find all sorts of training available to help you develop your practice and hopefully support you in the rewarding but often challenging task of fostering.

Wishing you and your families all the best,

Portia Newling

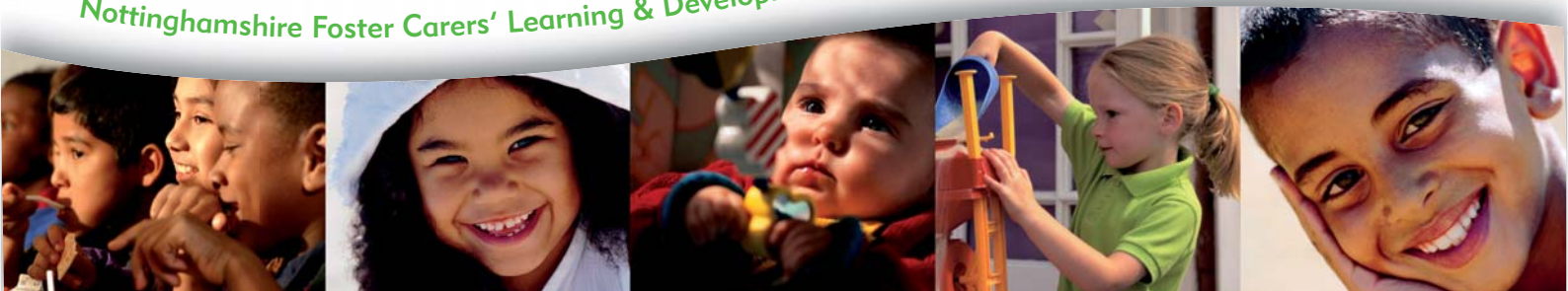
Portia Newling

FLAG

(Fostering Liaison and Advisory Group)

FLAG meets four times each year at The White Post pub in Farnsfield. This is a growing group, liaising between all parties interested in fostering: foster carers, contract carers, service providers from fostering, children's services and others whose service impacts looked after children - health, play services, etc. The meetings are a great opportunity to share information and find out about new developments in fostering. FLAG also has money to share with the local support groups. Everyone is welcome - your opinions are needed, so come along and help develop communication between fostering services and carers, make sure your concerns are heard!

Dates for 2011 are: 9th May, 7pm AGM, 7.30pm usual meeting; 26th Sept, 7.30pm; 28th Nov, 7.30pm. The White Post Pub function room, Farnsfield.



Learning & Development Contact Details

Applications regarding events should be addressed to:

Training Administrator

Employee Services Centre (ESC)
c/o County Hall
West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

Telephone: (0115) 846 3509

Fax: (0115) 846 3586

Email: trainingadmin@nottsc.gov.uk

General Information

Application for Events

All Foster Carers are required to evidence 20 hours learning and development per annum.

Applications should be made as part of your annual Personal Development Plan (PDP) with your Supervising Social Worker (SSW), who will place your application on to the on-line Learning & Development System (LDS).

Please note dates of any events you have applied for. We will send you a letter confirming your booking.

If you need to cancel a booking, you must give at least five working days notice to enable the place to be offered to someone on the waiting list. Please contact the Training Administrator at the Employee Services Centre on (0115) 846 3509. If you give less than five days notice this could affect your application for other events during the year.

Travel/Childcare

Claim Forms

Please return your travel/childcare claim forms to the Foster Carer Training Administrator within **eight weeks** after an event in order to ensure your costs are met.

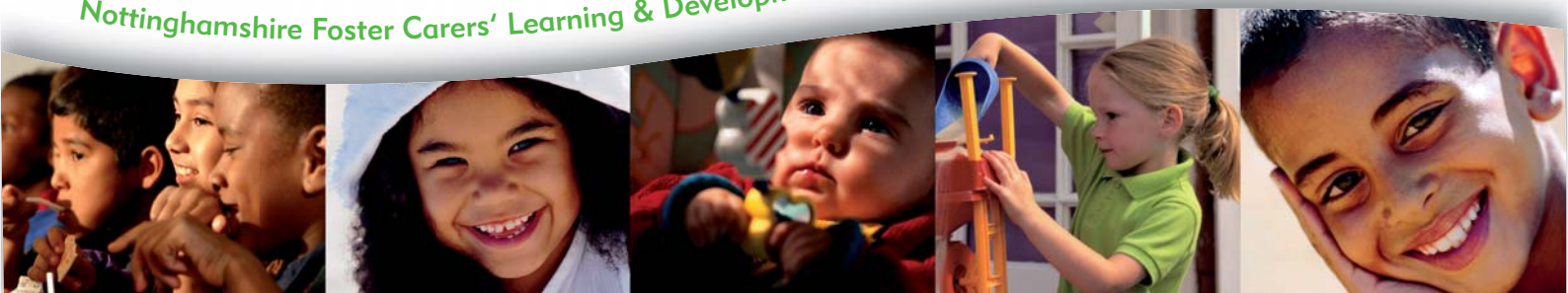
Childcare should be arranged between the carer and their Supervising Social Worker and an hourly rate of £3.50 per child will be paid for costs incurred. Claims can be made on the reverse of the travel claim form and will also require your SSW's signature.

Signposting to providers of localised training

If you would like to arrange a training event within your locality on the following subjects, please contact the named person below or speak with your supervising social worker about other training opportunities:

Working with birth families and contact
Deborah Ratcliffe tel: 01777 716130 or
email: deborah.ratcliffe@nottsc.gov.uk

Facing up to grief
Rachael Ellis tel: 0115 8546000 or email:
rachael.ellis@nottsc.gov.uk



Applications for the following events are to be made via your Supervising Social Worker

Training Events

Dr Bruce Perry: The impact of trauma and neglect on the developing child (Adoptionplus)

Event Objectives:

DR Bruce Perry MD PhD, Senior Fellow of the Child Trauma Academy Houston, USA, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Neurologist, Researcher and Author

- A child's development is profoundly influenced by experience
- Experiences - good and bad - shape the organisation of the brain
- The ultimate effect impacts emotional, social, cognitive and physiological functioning

The presentation will review clinical work and current research that can help us better understand developmental trauma, neglect and the relational problems that arise from neglect and threat. An overview will be provided that suggests new directions for parenting strategies, clinical practice, program development and policy

Date: 24th May 2011 **Time:** 9.00am - 4.30pm

Venue: The Sculpture Gallery, Woburn Park, Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire, MK17 9WA

Hours: 7.5 **Maximum number on course:** 10 adults

Trainer: Dr Bruce Perry (Adoptionplus)

Foster Carers' Induction Programme

Event Aims:

To assist and support foster carers with the relevant skills and knowledge to meet the requirements of the CWDC Training, Support and Development Standards for Foster Care. (Together with existing learning from the fostering foundation training and discussions with your supervising social worker).

Learning Outcomes:

- Provide information on Departmental policies and procedures
- Examine the roles and responsibilities of foster carers
- Provide information on how to access help and support
- Develop greater understanding of the child's journey into care
- Develop greater understanding of the roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in supporting Looked After Children and Young People

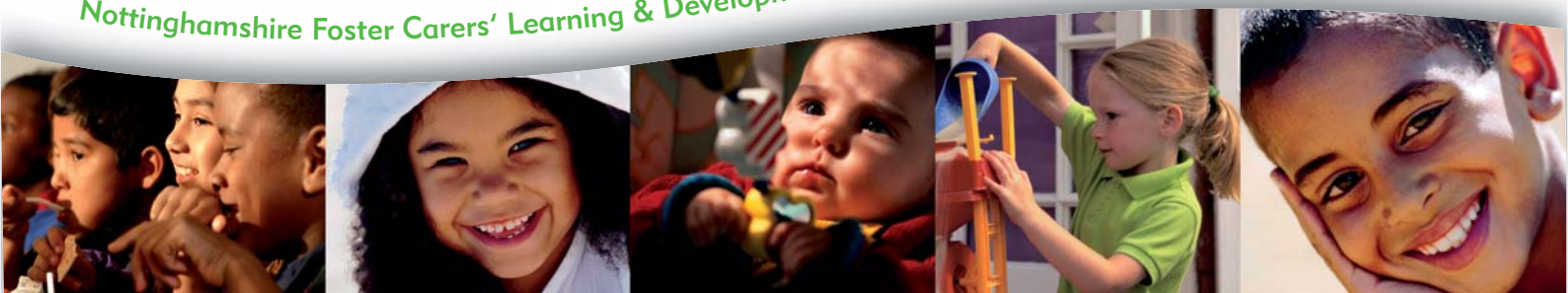
4 sessions:

Session 1:	7th September 2011	7.00pm - 9.30pm
Session 2:	10th September 2011	10.00am - 4.00pm
Session 3:	17th September 2011	10.00am - 4.00pm
Session 4:	21st September 2011	7.00pm - 9.30pm

Venue: TBC

Hours: 17 **Maximum number on course:** 20

Trainers: Foster Carers, Social Care Staff & other agencies



Maternal substance misuse during pregnancy: implications for fostering

Event Objectives:

- An overview of the impact of alcohol and drugs in pregnancy
- Understanding of the long-term consequences for the child
- Awareness of the consequences of placement in foster families and the needs of foster carers
- An understanding of the support needs of the fostering family as a whole

Event Information:

This 1 day learning event will be delivered by Dr Mary Mather, who was the Chair of the BAAF Health Advisory Group from 2000-2005 and has been the Medical Adviser to three local authority adoption and fostering panels. She is also the author of *Doctors for Children in Public Care*, which is the only British textbook for medical advisers working in adoption and fostering. She has been extensively involved in both the local and national training of medical advisers and permanency panels.

The event will aim to increase overall knowledge of the risks of drugs and alcohol in pregnancy, the long-term consequences to the unborn child and the impact within fostering. Substance misuse in pregnancy is known to affect the structure and function of the developing brain causing long-term difficulties with the processing of information. It is estimated that at least 7000 children per year are born in Britain with these unrecognised difficulties. Many of these children will need long-term substitute care. Frequently the long-term consequences of their invisible disability are not fully recognised. These children and their carers need education and support which recognises the impact on their learning, emotions and behaviour.

Date: Thursday, 29th September 2011 **Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm

Venue: Rufford Mill, Rufford Country Park, Rufford Lane, Rufford, Newark, NG22 9DG

Hours: 6 **Maximum number on course:** 100 adults

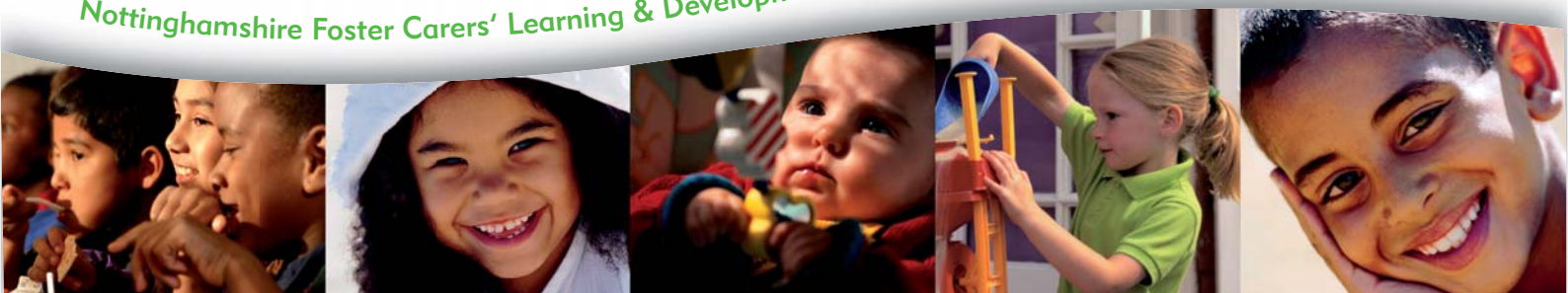
Trainer: Dr Mather

Fostering Changes Programme

This programme is an intensive course taking place over 10 sessions. It involves foster carers looking closely at their style of parenting, the child they are fostering, and how these work together. The course is based on a training programme developed by BAAF (British Association for Adoption and Fostering).

The programme will not be running during this current year. However expressions of interest for 2012/13, are to be made to Ian Tabberer on 07753 630072, whereby the course will be reviewed subject to the number of applications.

Look out for further details of a Foster Carers conference later in the year on Identity and Diversity



The Virtual School for Looked After Children (LAC) in Nottinghamshire

The goals of the Virtual School are to improve the educational experience and outcomes for LAC, care leavers and adopted children. To achieve this, members of the team work closely with Designated Teachers for LAC in schools, and with social workers and carers. Training is provided by members of the Virtual School team, for Designated Teachers and for other groups on request, including carers, adopters, social workers, school governors and university students on social work and teaching courses. Wherever appropriate and possible, training opportunities are offered in a multi-agency way because partnership working is very important to support LAC in their learning. Contacts for the Virtual School are listed below.

All Nottinghamshire Schools have access to on-line training, via their Designated Teachers for LAC, to support their duties to ensure that LAC receive the best possible educational opportunities. The on-line module currently (at least until January 2012) contains two short courses (each equivalent to approximately one day of face to face training), 'Education and Trauma', and 'Impulsive Behaviour', provided by AKAMAS. The on-line module also provides access to a variety of relevant local and national resources. Each Designated Teacher is a local administrator for this resource and can make it available on-line to any member of their school community, including staff, governors and parents/carers. If you would like to have this access please ask the Designated Teacher for LAC at your child's school. If you provide your e-mail address to them, they will be able to add your details, and your log-on details will be e-mailed to you. If you are not sure who the Designated Teacher for LAC is at your child's school, then ask at the school or contact one of the Virtual School team.

A very useful publication from the National Children's Bureau, 'Understanding Why', is available for free download (in addition to a glossy hard copy which can be purchased). This gives a simple explanation, with examples, of attachment difficulties and how they can affect education for looked after and adopted children and young people. It can be used by both carers and teachers and can be helpful in helping to create a shared understanding of a child's behaviour. It can be downloaded from: www.ncb.org.uk/ncercc/a-zofrcc/residentialchildcare-u.aspx

Contacts for The Virtual School

Head of Virtual School

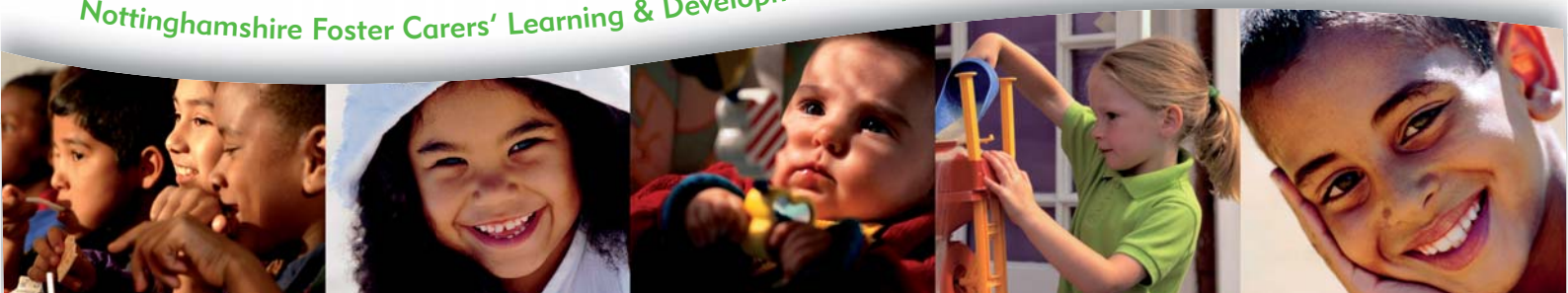
new appointment April 2011 - admin contact:
01623 434149 - dace.birzgalis-liegis@nottsc.gov.uk

School Advisors for LAC and adopted children:

Sue Denholm 01623 433433 (Mansfield, Ashfield) - suedenholm@ba.notts.sch.uk
Paul Addison 01158546042 (Broxtowe, Rushcliffe, Gedling, Newark) - pauladdison@ba.notts.sch.uk
Tony Stevens 01623 433433 (Bassetlaw) - Tonystevens@ba.notts.sch.uk

Senior Educational Psychologist:

Elaine Hack 07753630070 - elaine.hack@nottsc.gov.uk



Changing Futures: The new Fostering National Minimum Standards and Regulations

Do you know what will be expected of you when these Regulations and Standards come into force from April 2011?

Essential Briefing for:

- Foster Carers
- Fostering Staff
- Managers and Administrators
- Children's Social Workers
- Managers and Administrators



Select a Date

- Then -

Select a Time

19th May 2011

Newstead Miners Welfare

or

23rd May 2011

Richard Herrod Centre

9:30 - 11:30am

or

12:30 - 2:30pm

or

7:00 - 9:00pm

Aims:

- To provide an overview of the new National Minimum Standards and Regulations for Fostering Services
- To provide an overview of the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations
- To offer a brief summary of the key changes and new areas covered

Places can be booked in the usual manner via the Learning Development System (LDS)

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Information

Agency	Information
<p>ACLS Alison Sisson</p>	<p>The Adult & Community Learning Service (ACLS) provide family learning courses in local venues which are accessible to mothers, fathers, grandparents, carers and their children. You can find details of the courses on our website www.nottsacslsmoodle.net</p> <p>The website appears as the Nottinghamshire Honeycomb. On the main page click on Family Learning, then the Wider Family Learning Schedule. The Wider Family Learning schedule gives information about the family learning courses running each term, the provider, the venue and the dates. If further information is required or you wish to check to see if you are eligible to attend the course, please contact ACLS on 0115 9772185.</p>
<p>CAMHS Rebecca Gemmell</p>	<p>Access via SSW or contact directly on 01623 673689. Email address specifically for the Training Programme: emotionalhealth.training@nottspct.nhs.uk</p>
<p>Dukeries College Carol Fitzgerald</p>	<p>Dukeries College can tailor courses to meet your requirements as well as offering the usual; First Aid, Paediatric First Aid, Basic Food Hygiene, Health & Safety, Stress Management, Anger Management, and Relaxation. If you wish to discuss in more detail or make any suggestions please contact Carol Fitzgerald email: cfitzgerald@dukeries.notts.sch.uk</p>
<p>Early Years Alison Hill</p>	<p>The internet link to the Early Years and Childcare Services workforce development opportunities: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/earlyyears</p>
<p>Let's Build John Gough</p>	<p>Information relating to Drug and Alcohol Training: www.letsbuild.org.uk, Tel: 01623 652743, Email: john.gough@nottshc.nhs.uk</p>
<p>NORSACA Park Hall Autism Resource Centre</p>	<p>Training available for parents/carers who are looking after or caring for a child on the autistic spectrum. Tel: 0115 9761805, www.norsaca.org.uk</p>



Agency	Information
<p>Nottinghamshire Domestic Violence Forum</p>	<p>Nottinghamshire Domestic Violence Forum Training Opportunities: Up to date training information is available on our website at www.ndvf.org.uk/training Project Support Worker, Nottinghamshire Domestic Violence Forum, www.ndvf.org.uk, 0115 9623237</p>
<p>Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board</p>	<p>The training programme for 2011 - 2012 will be published on the NSCB website. This will contain details of the courses available for the coming year and how to apply for them. The training section of the website can be accessed by going to www.nottscc.gov.uk/nscb and then selecting Working with Children, Young People, Adults and Families from the menu on the left-hand side of the page.</p>
<p>Public Health Nutritionist Luke Daley</p>	<p>Helping communities to get healthy! Nottinghamshire Community Health's (NCH) NHS Nutrition and Dietetics team offer various workshops across the county to give adults and children the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills around healthy eating. The workshops are varied and designed to be fun whilst encouraging people to cook and learn about food and healthy eating together, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 4 week cooking courses to be run in schools, community centres, churches etc. 2) Weaning and fussy feeding sessions to children centres across Nottinghamshire 3) School workshops ranging from primary to University level 4) Talks about cooking on a budget, The Eatwell Plate, Healthy Meals and many more <p>Nutrition training to members of staff to support the public, such as health care workers, teachers, community centre workers and many more. For more information about this service, visit www.nottscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/healthyeating or talk to your supervising social worker about accessing the courses. Luke Daley (Gedling, Rushcliffe, Mansfield) Tel: 01623 785183 Mia Johnson (Ashfield, Newark and Sherwood, Broxtowe) NHS Nottinghamshire Community Health's NHS Public Health Nutritionists.</p>



Agency	Information
<p>Re-solv Kelly Hopper</p>	<p>We are a charity based in Stone in Staffordshire and we have been going for over 26 years. We specialise solely in Volatile Substance Abuse. The link to our website is www.re-solv.org where you can find many free resources which can be downloaded and lots of information on Volatile Substance Abuse. At present I am offering free training to any agency in the East Midlands who work with Children, Young People and Adults. I am only funded till the end of September and I am not sure if we can get any future funding for this project so if anyone is interested in having the training they need to do it before the end of September.</p> <p>Kelly Hopper Workforce Development Officer</p> <p>Re-Solv Working to End Volatile Substance Abuse Tel: 0787 566 5805 www.re-solv.org kelly.hopper@re-solv.org</p>
<p>Shadings</p>	<p>Shadings is a non-faith based project supporting children and their parents/carers of African/African Caribbean and Multiple Heritage descent by providing opportunities to explore issues related to culture and identity.</p> <p>Shadings Community Project C/o Community House 36 Wood Street , Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 1QA T: 01623 634722 M: 07980 123843 E: shadingsproject@hotmail.co.uk W: www.shadingsproject.org</p>
<p>The Fostering Network</p>	<p>For information about training events offered by the Fostering Network go to www.fostering.net/learning or ring 020 7620 6430</p> <p>We produce a key resource list on social networking, which is free to members and available to download at www.fostering.net/resources/resource-lists/social-networking</p> <p>Also recently published an information sheet on foster care and social networking, again free to members, available to download at www.fostering.net/resources/information-sheets/social-networking-and-facebook</p>



Useful Contact Numbers

Jayne Austin

Fostering Service Manager
0115 878 3600

Myriam Bamkin

Ashfield Fostering Team Manager
01623 433259

Kate Beresford

Clinical Nurse Specialist South Nottinghamshire
0115 883 1195

Ailsa Burrill

Clinical Nurse Specialist North Nottinghamshire
01623 622515 ext. 2661

Rachael Ellis

Adoption Training Co-ordinator (p/t)
Fostering Foundation Training Co-ordinator (p/t)
0115 993 4634/0115 854 6000

Sarah Furby

Fostering Network Advice & Mediation Worker
0115 984 2647

Sue Hollingworth-Shaw

Co-ordinator Youth Services
01623 867051

Pauline Inwood

Head of Virtual School for Looked After Children
01623 434149

Tony Kalirai & Lynda Kumar

County Adoption Team
01623 476876

Elaine Mills, Carolyn Boot & Joanne Kent

Recruitment & Publicity
01623 520208

Philip Morgan

Mansfield Fostering Team Manager
01623 433500

Pat Rajan & Jane Ellis

Support After Adoption Team
01623 437551 (PR) - 01623 437550 (JE)

David Robinson

Short Breaks, Team Manager
01623 433231

Chris Smith

South Notts Fostering Team Manager
0115 854 6372

Ian Tabberer

Fostering Futures/Emergency Carers
Team Manager
07753630072

Sandra Warner

Bassetlaw Fostering Team Manager
01777 716151

Judy Whysall

Newark Fostering Team Manager
01623 520205

Adoption at Chadburn House

01623 437223

Children's Information Service

0800 781 2168

Emergency Duty Team

0300 456 4546

Forever Families (Adoption)

0845 301 2288

Foster Carers 'Out of Hours Service'

0800 085 8995

Fostering Network Helpline

Monday-Friday 12.30-4.00pm 0207 620 2100

Nottingham Dyslexia Institute

0115 948 3849

Notts Welfare Rights Service

08449 808080

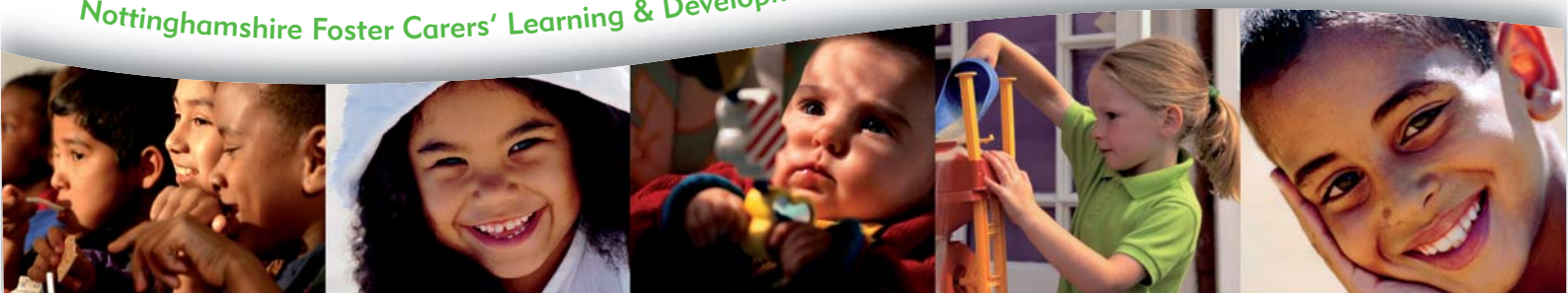
www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/benefitsadvice

Payment/Financial Enquiries

0115 977 3989

Teenage Pregnancy Team

01623 476830



Foster Carer Support Groups

The Foster Carer Support Groups enable carers to share experiences and support with others in their area. The Support Groups also feed into the Liaison Committee, allowing issues to be raised at a wider level.

Locality Contacts

Ashfield

Sue Brown
(01623) 754730

Bassetlaw

Rachel Cutts
(07824) 398557

Tracey Jervis
(07917) 407689

Mansfield

Cath Gullen
(01623) 650359

Mrs W O'Hara
(01623) 629122

Newark

Anne Staniforth
(01636) 659192

Sherwood

Dawn Clements
(01636) 816589

(Newark North)
Elaine Liddy
(01623) 863493

South Notts

Portia Newling
(0115) 8598039

Specialist Groups

Fostering Futures

Judy Flanagan
(01673) 860397

Short Breaks for Disabled Children

Helen Woodsend
(01623) 433240

