



Welcome To Our Fostering Family.



The Foster Carers Association (FCA) committee would like to take this opportunity to say a very well deserved **Congratulations** on becoming a Foster Carer with BwDBC.

You have chosen to help a child/ren to achieve their best after a difficult start in life, which is one of the most rewarding and heartfelt things anyone can do. This new role as a Foster Carer will have a massive impact on you and your family's life.

Being a foster carer can provide fantastic, enjoyable and brilliant times/emotions/feelings; however, there may be times when you are unsure, worried and/or feel that nothing you do is working.

You can talk to your SSW (Supervising Social Worker), the CSW (Child/ren's Social Worker) and they will do their utmost to support and advise you.

The FCA is completely independent to the Local Authority and we are here to provide you with Advice, Support, Guidance, Information, and Help to ensure the best outcomes for you and your Fostering Family.

We will do this with:

Regular meetings

Every 6 /8 weeks (Dates in Training Booklet/ Fostering Training website/www.bwdfca.co.uk)

This gives you the opportunity to meet with other carers, discuss strategies that have worked for them, gain years and years worth of knowledge from our fostering family carers who have " been there, done that, got the T-Shirt".

We regularly have Speakers to discuss topics that may be of importance to you e.g. Pupil Premium/Tax Issues/Advocacy and Mentoring.

Just let us know if there is anything specific and we will try our best to find a speaker for the topic/or provide information where possible.

FCA Helpline Number is 07580074678 and we have our own website www.bwdfca.co.uk

If you contact the FCA via the helpline or website and we are unable to respond to your enquiry at that time, we will get back to you as soon as we have someone available to answer and/or deal with your enquiry.

These additional resources are not for urgent enquires, if an instance arises that requires urgent attention after 5.00pm then the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) should be contacted on 01254 587547.

If you would like to receive emails regarding details of FCA Meetings or any information that may be relevant to you regarding Fostering, then you are more than welcome to join our emailing list. Please email FCA Secretary, Sam Briggs to be added to our emailing list at funkybudda@talktalk.net or you can text or ring her on her Mobile 07926558643.

We hope you will be able to attend some of our FCA meetings and meet up with other Carers.

Please visit our website for more information www.bwdfca.co.uk

Kind regards

Sam Briggs – BwD FCA Secretary