Guidance for Special Guardianship Order Support Plan’s

The assessing Social Worker in the Friends and Family Team (FFAST) will make a request for a FAB assessment following consultation with the potential SGO carers and FFAST manager. This will be completed by week 2 from when the SGO assessment commenced. The FFAST manager will send off the FAB assessment. The completed FAB assessment will be sent back to the FFAST manager and any finances will be agreed between the FFAST manager and senior manager. Any agreement of finances will then by communicated to the Child’s Social Worker to input into the SGO support plan.

The child’s social worker will arrange a SGO support planning meeting needs to be held in order to establish the SGO support plan. This meeting should be held by week 5 from when the SGO assessment commenced. At this meeting the Child’s Social Worker, FFAST Social Worker, Team Manager of both the Children’s Team and FFAST team, the potential SGO carers and any other relevant professionals will need to attend. Prior to this meeting the Child’s Social Worker should have drafted an outline support plan which will be built upon at the meeting. The Child’s Social Worker following this meeting will finalise the SGO support plan and send it onto the FFAST manager for agreement from Tammy Wheatley, Service Manager.

It should be discussed at the SGO support planning meeting whether a PEP Meeting needs to be held (if the child/young person is a Child in Care) prior to the SGO potentially being granted.

The SGO support plan should be specific to the child’s needs. If planned work is due to be carried out to meet a child’s needs then details should be specific to include who will be completing the work and timescales of this. **Please note an individual SGO support plan must be completed for each child.**

Additional information to consider in individual sections of the SGO support plan:

**HEALTH**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Any outstanding health needs and how the carer will meet these
* Registration at GP, Dentist and Opticians
* Any specific health needs and how carer would address these
* Any dietary needs

**EDUCATION**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Any identified attendance issues and how carer will resolve this
* Does carer need any support in getting the child to education
* Are there any identified educational needs. For example is the child below in certain areas of education which require improvement
* Who is the primary contact in school who the carers should talk to if there any concerns
* Will the child have access to Pupil Premium Plus- Virtual school

**EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIOURAL DEVELOPMENT**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Does the child have any additional emotional needs, and if so how will the carer support the child to address these
* Is there a need for any additional services or therapeutic services and if so has this been looked into has an assessment of need been completed and are you wishing to access the Adoption support fund?
* Are there any concerns surrounding the child’s behaviour and what support will the carer require surrounding this, CYPS referral

**IDENTITY**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Does the child have any cultural or religious needs that the carer may need support with meeting
* How will the carer be supported in ensuring that the child’s identity needs are met- contact
* Does life story work need to be completed? If so who will complete this, when will it start and what the duration of this be

**FAMILY AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS**

This section should take into account of the following:

* How will the carers support the child to maintain family relationships is contact supervised and if so has the contact team signed up to this.
* How will the carers support the child to maintain peer relationships and integrate into the community
* Do the carers need any support in building their own relationship with the child

**SOCIAL PRESENTATION**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Have there been any concerns surrounding the child’s presentation/ hygiene if so how will the carer support the child to ensure this is not a problem
* Does the child need support with their social skills and if so how will the carers support them with this

**SELF-CARE SKILLS**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Does the child require support with building their self-care skills and if so how will the carers support the child with this.

**CONTACT**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Clear details of any contact recommendations including the wider family
* If contact is to be supervised who’s responsibility will it be to supervise the contact, has the contact team signed up to this or is it the carers responsibility
* Will there be any cost involved in supervising the contact. For example if a contact centre is required outside of the authority, cost need to be included and the centre identified.

**SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS**

This section should take into account of the following:

* What support will be provided to the carers by the FFAST Team
* If the carers are in another local authority how do they access support from their nearby local authority.
* FFAST support information and contact details need to be included

**FINACIAL AND PRACTICAL**

This section should take into account of the following:

* Is the carers current accommodation suitable and if not what support will be provided in order to support the carers to access more suitable accommodation.
* Do the carers need financial support – to include whether support is needed to help with nursery fee etc.
* Are the carers able to claim child benefit and child tax credit
* Do the carers need support in purchasing start up equipment in order for the children to live with them

**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

This section should take into account of the following:

* A full breakdown is needed of any finances recommended above
* If equipment is recommended – a breakdown of how much the equipment costs will need to be inputted here
* If means tested allowance has been agreed (as per FAB assessment) this will be inputted at the bottom of this section