

Title/Status-	Practice Standards for Supervising Social Workers in the Team Around the Child and Friends and Family Foster Care
New Document or Revised	Revised
Responsible Head of Service	Children In Care
Review Due Date	October 2024

Leicestershire Procedure for Practice Standards for Supervising Social Workers in the Team Around the Child and Friends and Family Foster Care

Applies to- Looked after Children



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Trust and respect



Flexibility



Openness and transparency

FOSTERING SERVICE

Practice Standards for Supervising Social Workers in the Team Around the Child
and Friends and Family Foster Care

Setting the standards, Caring about our service

Heather Hughes

Reviewed April 2023



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Practice Standards for Team around the Child & Post support Kinship	Completed by	Where is the evidence ?
All Foster Carers will have an allocated worker one week prior to attending panel and this will be recorded on MOSAIC .	Team Manager Supervising Social workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mosaic
The supervising social will have made an introductory phone call (and/or attended panel) and scheduled a handover visit. Within one week of approval an introductory welcome pack will have been sent, including Carers handbook	Supervising Social workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mosaic
At the point of approval all Foster Carers will discuss and sign the Foster carers agreement to identify expectations of Foster Carer and SSW and clarify agreed Terms of Approval	Supervising Social Worker and Foster carer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Mosaic • Renewed at Carer's Annual review
All Foster Carers will have a Training and Support plan to identify carers needs for the next year	Supervising Social Worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Mosaic • Will be discussed in supervision between Team manager and SSW as well as between SSW and foster carers
Carer's annual review should be completed within	Supervising Social worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mosaic


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timescales (every 12 months of sooner as requested by ADM)	Reviewing Officer	
Child's voice should be obtained at least once a year	Supervising Social worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mosaic – child's voice booklets • Child's case files • SSW supervision records
All foster carers will have a Foster home Safe Caring Plan and where appropriate Individual safety plan for the child.	Supervising Social Worker To ensure that the risks are identified and managed in an effective way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The matching of placements • Renewed at Carer's Annual review • Reviewed at the end of any placement and updated
All foster records will have an up to date chronology identifying any concerns or allegations, and the actions taken	Supervising Social Worker Discussion in supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fostering Service will be aware of any concerns regarding carers • Fostering service will be aware of any allegations and follow a clear process of actions referring to LADO as appropriate • Chronology doc on Mosaic • Chronology available for carers' review

All Foster Carers subject to an allegation or following concerns regarding their practice will be subject of an early review	Supervising Social worker Reviewing Officer Team Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fostering Service will be aware of any practice issues / Concerns • Fostering service will be aware of any allegations and follow a clear process of actions referring to LADO as appropriate • Summary of allegation form to be completed and uploaded on Mosaic • Referenced in carers annual review on Mosaic
All Foster carers subject to an allegation must have access to independent support	Supervising Social worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster carers have a known process that supports them through allegations • Clear information from sent out as standard expectation • Foster carer advised of support via Fostering Network membership • Foster carers advised of access to Foster Talk
All foster carers subject to an allegation or concerns are taken to fostering panel and ADM for decision making	Supervising Social Worker Team Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear identified process for all carers and service. • Attendance at Fostering Panel where



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	Agency Decision maker	<p>appropriate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case oversight where not appropriate
All foster carers have access to training and development to meet the needs of the children / young people in placement	Training Co-ordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme. • Oversight at fostering reviews
All foster carers will receive training in therapeutic approaches	Training Co-ordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and support plan • Improved Placement stability • Minimise placement disruption
When a placement faces difficulties a stability meeting will be held an support plan identified	<p>Supervising Social Worker</p> <p>CiC Social worker</p> <p>Team Managers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement stability meeting minutes and support plan • Clear management oversight on mosaic
All Foster carers will hold as a minimum six monthly PODS with the Team Around the Child	<p>Supervising Social Worker</p> <p>CiC social worker</p> <p>Virtual School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear oversight of children`s plans
<p>Foster carers to have opportunities to engage with other carers through :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locality meetings 	<p>Team Manager</p> <p>Service Manager</p> <p>Supervising Social worker</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build upon our foster carer retention strategy • Feedback to inform service



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation Events- Foster carers forum • Training • Fostering Newsletter • Private Facebook group for LCC Carers 	Training Co-ordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback to develop service
The service will provide events throughout the year to engage with foster families to embed therapeutic interventions and foster carers working together	Team Manager Supervising Social workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events organised through newsletter • Feedback from events • Information placed on facebook group
Every year foster carers will have at least one unannounced visit from a member of the Fostering team	Supervising Social workers/ Foster team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate form used on mosaic

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