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Foster Parent Training,

Peer Support Workshop & Events Brochure

April 2023-March 2024

Foster Parent Training

PCFS gives considerable priority to all Staff and Foster Parent’s training and use only experienced and highly qualified trainers. Training is especially tailored to the needs of Foster Parents and the programme ensures continuing development. Following approval your Supervising Social Worker will complete a Personal Development Plan to help ensure that you have the relevant skills and knowledge to support you in your fostering role.

In Your First Year

In your first year you are expected and will be supported to complete The Training, Support and Development (TSD) Standards. These standards provide a national minimum benchmark that sets out what Foster Parents should know, understand and be able to do within the first 12 months after being approved.

These standards were developed by the sector and were introduced in 2007 and apply to all approved Foster Parents in England.

All Foster Parents must complete the Introduction Training and TSD standards in the first 12 months of approval. Foster Parents who work in addition to fostering will be expected to contribute to the TSD standards in the first 12 months and achieve the induction training within 24 months of approval.

Ongoing training will require Foster Parents to achieve a minimum of 6 courses per year and for those who work in addition to fostering a minimum 3 courses per year. These can be a mixture of face to face and on-line according to availability and meeting the needs of the child/young person living with the Foster Parents.

Core Introduction Training that is mandatory includes:

* Safeguarding
* Safer Care
* Equality and Diversity
* Record Keeping and Report Writing
* Paediatric First Aid (in person)
* CPI De-escalation (in person)
* Stage 1 Therapeutic Parenting

Some of these courses carry a three-year renewal/refresher and therefore Foster Parents are expected to attend training when expired or if a need was identified due to an incident or concern expressed. However, it is the policy of PCFS, that annual refresher courses can take place, especially when changes of policy or changes in legislation make this a requirement.

Any changes in legislation and/or policy which are relevant to the work practices will result in Foster Parents and staff being informed at the earliest possible opportunity.

Whenever possible we offer face to face training but to ensure your training is up to date (and to support Foster Parents who also work) on-line training is a really good option.

Online Training

We encourage all our Foster Parents to complete online training with the Kent Safeguarding Children Board. Training can be accessed via: [www.kscmp.org.uk/training](http://www.kscmp.org.uk/training) , or simply google Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership training. If completed within time scale, they are free so an excellent way of offering training to your support network as well as yourself.

Another great free online resource under <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk> aims to introduce the Prevent Duty and explains how it aims to safeguard vulnerable people from being radicalised.

Please send your certificate and some feedback into your SSW or Admin support team for any Online training you complete.

You can also familiarise yourself with training by Sarah Naish that is available on YouTube - <https://youtu.be/YoWUZNhEXo>

Awareness of Policies and Procedures

All Foster Parents are expected to be aware of the policies and procedures that are relevant for your role. These can all be found on Tri.X online by following the link below. Where appropriate these policies will be periodically discussed in your supervisions, training and support groups. It is part of the requirements of your fostering role that you both read the necessary policies and sign up for updates, so you are kept fully aware of when policies change.

<https://www.proceduresonline.com/pilgrimscorner/ifa/>

Peer Support Workshops

All Peer Support Workshops take place between 10am-12pm.

We encourage our Foster Parents to attend 5 Peer Support workshops and/or events a year as a minimum.

Peer Support Workshops are a great way to meet other Foster Parents, gain insight and advice from your fellow colleagues and to impart skills and knowledge and work collectively. The Workshops will include an element of training or an awareness session to share learning.

We are always happy for suggestions around any training courses, Peer Support Workshop agenda or activities from all our Foster Parents, Children and Young People.

Training Dates for your diary

Current training April 2023-March 2024.

Please contact the office or your SSW to book on the training.

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| **Date** | **Training Course** | **Time/Venue** | **Facilitator** |
| 30th April 2023 | Panel Development Training | The Gathering Space  TBC | PCFS |
| 12th May 2023 | Safer Care | The Gathering Space  9:30-1:00pm | Lucy Castree/Sue Bartholomew |
| June 2023 TBC | First Aid | TBC | TBC |
| 14th July 2023 | Safeguarding | The Gathering Space  9:30-1:00pm | Lucy Castree |
| 8th Sept 2023 | Parent and Child Placements | The Gathering Space  09:30-1:00pm | Lucy Castree/Sue Bartholomew |
| January 2024 TBC | CPI – De-escalation Training | TBC | TBC |
| 8th March 2024 | Record Keeping and report writing | The Gathering Space 9:00-2:00pm | Sue Bartholomew |

**If you have any queries regarding training or wish to book onto any course, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01227 283 696**

Events and Peer Support Workshop Dates for your diary 2023-2024

Please contact the office or your SSW to make us aware of your attendance

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| **Date** | **Training Course** | **Time/Venue** | **Facilitator** |
| 31st April 2023 | Easter Eggtravaganza | The Gathering Space  12:00-3:00pm | PCFS |
| 26th May 2023 | Peer Support Workshop  *(Sudden Infant Death Awareness Session)* | The Gathering Space  10:00-12:00pm | PCFS |
| 30th June 2023 | Peer Support Workshop  *(Unconscious Bias Awareness Session)* | The Gathering Space  10:00-12:00pm | PCFS |
| 4th Aug 2023 | Beach Party | TBC | PCFS |
| 29th Sept 2023 | Peer Support Workshop  *(Training topic TBC)* | The Gathering Space  10:00-12:00pm | PCFS |
| 20th Oct 2023 | Potting Party | The Gathering Space  12:00-3:00pm | PCFS |
| 24th Nov 2023 | Peer Support Workshop – *(Therapeutic Parenting Stage 2)* | The Gathering Space  10:00-12:00pm | SSW/LC/SB |
| 22nd Dec 2023 | Festive Drop-in | The Gathering Space  09:00-1:00pm | PCFS |
| 26th Jan 2024 | Peer Support Workshop –*(Therapeutic Parenting*  *Stage 1)* | The Gathering Space  10:00-12:00pm | SSW/LC |
| 12th Feb 2024 | Winter Gathering | The Gathering Space  12:00-3:00pm | PCFS |
| 29th Mar 2024 | Peer Support Workshop  *(Training topic TBC)* | The Gathering Space  10:00-12:00pm | PCFS |