

North Lincolnshire Council

Young Person's Statement of Purpose for Adoption 2018 - 2019



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The address of your local Adoption Service is;

North Lincolnshire Adoption and Fostering Service
Church Square House
30 – 40 High Street
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL

Telephone: 01724 297024

If you would like some help going through this Statement of Purpose then please ring us (or ask your parents to) on **01724 297024** and we will sort this out for you. Ask to speak to the Duty Adoption Social Worker.

The person who put this together is called **Karen Everatt** and she is in charge of the Adoption Service. She is always interested to hear about what you think and to answer any questions you might have. You can contact her on **01724 297024** or by email karen.everatt@northlincs.gov.uk

1. For Starters

Every Adoption Service has to write a Statement of Purpose. This is so that everyone knows what the Adoption Service does and also the rules that it has to follow.

Some of the rules that we have to follow are in these important papers;

- **National Minimum Standards for Adoption 2014**
- **Statutory Guidance on Adoption 2013**

You should have a chance to see this Statement of Purpose. So, we make sure it is on the Council's webpages www.northlincs.gov.uk and we also give it to every adopted young person that we are working with.

Every year we update this so that you can see what we will be doing and what we want to achieve.

The people who check we are doing what we need to do are from **Ofsted** and their details are;

OFSTED

Piccadilly Street

Store Street

Manchester

M1 2WD

Telephone 0300 123 1231

Email; enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

In June 2017 the Adoption Services that we provide were inspected by Ofsted. Some of our adopted young people met with the Ofsted Inspector. The Ofsted Inspector listened to the feedback that they gave about the Adoption Service.

In September 2017 the Ofsted Report was published and North Lincolnshire's Adoption Services were judged as '**Outstanding**'. The young people and adopters who met with the Inspector had this to say about our adoption service;

'You can always speak to someone who will listen and help you'.

We want the Adoption Service to continue to be outstanding and to do this we will make sure that we listen to your suggestions. We want you to tell us what is working well and if you think there is something we can be doing better. The different ways you can contact us are included in this Statement of Purpose.

2. What Adopted Young People say we should do

Every month we run an adopted young person's group for young people aged nearly 7 years old and all the way up to 18 years old. The young people who come to this group have called the group '**Superkidz's**'.

Here are some of the things that they said the Adoption Service should do;

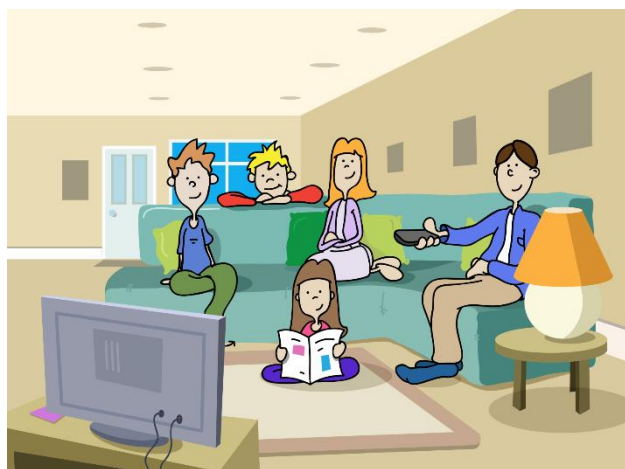
- Help with any troubles
- Give information
- Give support
- Help answer questions about birth families
- Be friendly
- Listen to young people
- Be nice to people
- Treat people fairly
- Help children find a family
- To keep arranging for adopted young people to meet



3. What the Adoption Service will do

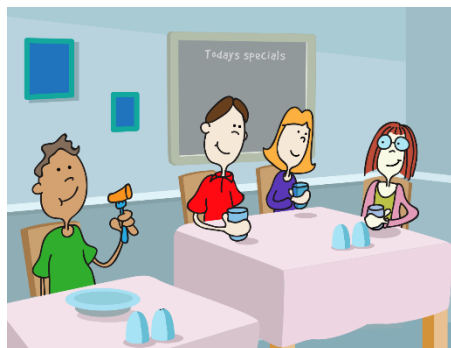
We will do all of the above and...

- You are all different and have your own opinions so we will listen to you in how best to support you and your family.
- We will ask you what you think about the Adoption Service. This helps us find out the best way we can help.
- We will ask you for any ideas about things we can do.
- What you say is always important to us.
- We will be respectful.
- We will always be available to help with troubles.
- We will give information about the support and services we provide. We will make sure that we do this by talking and also by writing things down.
- We will try and answer all your questions. Sometimes the answer may be difficult to hear and so we will always be around to support you and to help you work it out.
- It's important that you are safe and that you are given every chance to succeed and this means having a goal for your future. We will do whatever we can to help with this.



Examples of Services we will provide for you;

- We can give you a Children's Guide to Adoption.
- We can give you a guide to Adoption Support Services in North Lincolnshire.
- We also have an After 18 guide to Adoption.
- We can help with collecting memories and in collecting information for your life story book.
- We can try and help sort out things to do with contact.
- Sometimes you may need to talk to someone else, like a therapist. This can be the case when things feel very complicated and space and time is needed to work some things out. A therapist can sometimes help to do this. Or, it could be that an Adoption Social worker is the best person to help you do this. Either way, we will help you find someone you can talk to on a one to one.
- We will make sure you have the dates for the monthly group.
- We can arrange different training, for example, we can help schools understand a little more about what it is like to be adopted. Or, you might want to learn about something in particular and if you let us know then we might be able to arrange it.
- Every year we will also invite you to a;
 - ✓ Summer Fun Day
 - ✓ Christmas Party
 - ✓ Celebrating Adoption Event
 - ✓ Christmas Pantomime trip
 - ✓ Flamingoland Trip



4. Useful Information

In North Lincolnshire we have someone who can give advice about adoption support. This person is called an Adoption Support Services Advisor and she is called Di Rees. You can contact Di at di.rees@northlincs.gov.uk or write to her at the below address.

**The Adoption Support Services Advisor
North Lincolnshire Council
Hewson House,
Station Road
Brigg,
North Lincolnshire
DN20 8XJ**

Or, you can speak to an Adoption Duty Worker on **01724 297024** and ask that they tell Di that you want to speak to her.



Making a Complaint

If you are really unhappy with the Adoption and Fostering Service and you have tried to tell us but you don't think that it has been sorted then you can contact the Complaints Person and she is called Lesley Cooper. Contact details are;

**The Complaints Representations Manager
North Lincolnshire Council
People Directorate
Hewson House
Station Road
Brigg
North Lincolnshire
DN20 8XJ**

Telephone Number 01724 296426

Email Lesley.Cooper@northlincs.gov.uk

If you remain unsatisfied with our response you may wish to contact the **Local Government Ombudsman on 0300 061 0614.**

Another Useful Contact:

The Children's Commissioner for England

The Children's Commissioner for England promotes and protects children's rights in England. The Commissioner does this by listening to what children and young people say about what matters to them and making sure adults in charge take their views and interests into account. Contact details are;

**The Office of the Children's Commissioner
Sanctuary Buildings
20 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT**

Tel: 020 7783 8330

Email: info.request@childrenscommissioner.gsi.gov.uk

