Foster Carer and Supervising Social Worker Supervision Contract

Foster Carer(s):………………………………………………

Supervising Social Worker:……………………………………………

**Purpose:**

* To agree on a structure of supervision and support for carer(s) that is in line with the Fostering Services National Minimum Standards, the Fostering Regulations and the Code of Practice on the recruitment, assessment, approval, training, management and support of foster carers.
* To outline dual expectations and responsibilities.
* To outline areas of support, guidance, training and advice for Foster Carer(s).

# Expectations:

* To work within the Calderdale Foster Carer Agreement.
* To work in a way which demonstrates mutual respect.
* To always be punctual and reliable, notice should always be given if either party is going to be late.
* Work in an open and honest way to ensure there is a trusting relationship.
* Both parties to be prepared for Supervisory Visits, details of what to bring will be agreed between both parties, some of which is detailed below.
* Records of Supervisory Visits to be shared and signed. Any requested changes from the foster carer/s to be recorded in the next supervisory visit.
* If there are difficulties in working together this should firstly be discussed between both parties and recorded. Should there continue to be difficulties, from either the SSW’s or the FC’s perspective, the Practice Manager should be contacted for advice/support. In the event it remains unresolved then the Fostering Team Manager should be consulted.

**Supervising Social Worker’s responsibilities:**

* To advise, support and supervise Foster Carer(s).
* To provide accurate information on all aspects of the fostering task
* To keep a written record of supervisory visits and provide copies to foster carers
* To ensure the supervisory visit agenda is followed including the expectations as set out in a supervisory form template. This includes:
  + Review the Health and Safety checks/standards
  + View and sign off the foster carer daily records
  + Review incident logs – this should be received at the time of the incident
  + Review the safer caring policy
  + Review the Foster Carer/s Personal Development Plan
  + Discuss and reflect upon Foster Carer(s) practice in order to facilitate the Foster Carer(s) review
  + Review holiday periods and support care where appropriate.
* To work in an open and honest way, challenge oppressive practice and enable anti-discriminatory practice.
* To develop and sustain a positive working relationship with all household members including children in placement; ensuring additional visits take place at a time which supports this.
* Seek to receive feedback from relevant others including household members and professionals working with the child/ren which can be shared and reflected upon within supervisory visits.
* Enable the foster carer to be a part of the team around the child through effective communication and advocating with others when relevant.

# Foster Carer’s Responsibilities

* To keep the Supervising Social Worker informed about any changes in her or his circumstances.
* Prepare for supervisory visits through:
* Reviewing previous actions
* Any amendments/disagreements to previous supervisory visit record to be shared prior to or at the time of the next supervisory visit
* Review relevant documents with the SSW; ensuring they are up to date and available at the supervisory visit, please see list above under SSW responsibilities.
* Providing evidence of how you are currently meeting the standards; usually provided through discussions with your SSW about meeting the needs of the child, reflecting upon training attended or feeding back detail of relevant meetings attended.
* Ensure written logs about the child/young person in placement is up to date and available to view.
* To work in an open and honest way, challenge oppressive practice and enable anti-discriminatory practice.
* To develop and sustain an appropriate professional relationship with your Supervising Social Worker. This involves receiving constructive feedback around your work.
* To support the SSW in developing and sustaining positive working relationships with all household members including children in placement
* To demonstrate reflective practice through the sharing of feedback from others and reflect on the fostering task with the support of your SSW.

**Working pattern of your Supervising Social Worker:**

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**Who to contact if the Supervising Social Worker is not available:**

Fostering Duty, Fostering Practice Managers, Fostering Admin, Fostering Team Manager are all available on:

01422 256053

EDT: 5.00pm-9.00am

01422 288000

**Regularity / Frequency of Supervision visits (Minimum 3 monthly):**

………………………………………………………………………………………

**Who is included in the Supervisory Visits:**

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**Duration of meetings:**

………………………………………………………………………………………

**Signed (Supervising Social Worker)**

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**Signed Foster Carer(s)**

…………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………

**Dated**:……………………………………………………