**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**

# FOSTER CARERS SUPERVISION CONTRACT

* It is the policy of Wiltshire Council Fostering Service to provide supervision for Foster Carers and Family Link Carers in line with legal requirements as outlined in The Fostering Services National Minimum standards 2011.
* Formal supervision is one aspect of an overall package of support provided to foster carers by Wiltshire Fostering Service.

* Supervision will be undertaken by a named Fostering Social Worker or their delegated representative.
* Supervision will be a minimum of monthly for 1½ hours to 2 hours. Where supervision is undertaken less often this will be proportionate to the amount of care provided. Where carers are on hold, or do not have a child in placement over a prolonged period, supervision can be reduced to a minimum of 3 monthly.
* Supervision should take place at a mutually agreed time, date and venue.
* Foster carers will receive a minimum of one unannounced supervision visit a year.
* Where there are two carers jointly approved both should be seen at every supervision meeting wherever possible, and every 3 months as a minimum.
* Carers’ own children living in the household should be seen alone during carer’s supervision a minimum of 3 times a year.
* All other members of the carer’s household should be seen by the supervising social worker a minimum of 3 times a year.
* It is the responsibility of all parties to make sure that supervision takes place. All parties to show a commitment to supervision by ensuring that meetings take place in privacy, with minimal interruptions and are cancelled only in exceptional circumstances.
* All supervision sessions will be recorded and the supervision record read signed and dated by all parties. Carers will receive a copy.
* Supervision will have an agreed agenda. Agenda items can be put forward by either party, agreed and prioritised at the start of each session.
* Supervision is designed to enable, and ensure carers are, providing consistent high quality care for the child or children placed in their home.
* Supervision includes the following elements:-
  + Communication
  + Support
  + Learning and development
  + Performance management
* Agreed actions will be reviewed at subsequent supervision meetings.
* Supervision should be an enabling and supportive experience for carers, and should be conducted in an open, non-discriminatory and non-oppressive way.
* Supervision will inform Foster Carers annual review and appraisal of skills.
* The Supervision contract will be reviewed annually or in the event of a change in circumstances.

The Supervising Social Worker and the Carer(s) agree to the following arrangements for supervision meetings:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of Supervision Contract |  |
| Date of Review of Contract |  |
| Name of Foster Carer/s |  |
| Foster Carer/s own children to be included and frequency |  |
| Other members of the household to be included and frequency |  |
| Supervising Fostering social worker |  |
| Agreed Supervision Frequency for Carer(s) |  |
| Agreed Venue/s |  |
| Supervision will be fully explained to carer/s  Date and name of person who has undertaken this task |  |
| Any other specific issues to be included in this Supervision contract: | |

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

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Date: …………………………………

Signed:………………………………………… Carer.

Date: …………………………………

Signed: …………………………………………Carer

Date: …………………………………

Signed: …………………………………………Other (if appropriate)

Date: ………………………………….