

3 Foster carers – Initial overview for each child

Foster carers receive and “hold” a huge amount of rich information about children and typically, when caring for some or all of the child’s siblings, you will have a great deal to contribute to assessments.

Please use the form below to share your observations about each child in the sibling group that you are caring for. You will have observed a lot about each of them and your views will be very valuable for the assessment.

Foster carer’s observations of child

Name of child:	
Brother/sister of:	

1. Please provide an overview of the child’s presentation on placement with you and subsequently. Are there any significant changes that you have observed while caring for him/her?

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2. Please provide a brief summary of the child’s strengths and vulnerabilities. Have you noticed any changes since they came to live with you? In particular, how does the child express emotions and respond to care (attempts to soothe/comfort/show affection/set boundaries)?

3. How does the child’s behaviour impact on you and your family?

4. Does the child talk about his/her parents and family? If so, is there someone they focus on particularly? How do they refer to them – with warmth? Wariness? Indifference?

Initial overview of each child

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5. How does the child cope with contact with family members? It would be useful if you can say who they are and your child's reaction to each one.

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