# SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDER SUPPORT PLAN

**To be read in conjunction with the SGO Assessment**

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| **Child’s name**: | **Child’s DOB:** | **Eclipse PER**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | |
| **Prospective Special Guardians’ Name(s):** | | |
| **Approving Local Authority:**  **The support will continue to be provided by the approving authority unless the family live outside of the Local Authority area, at which point support will transfer to the home authority after three years, save for any financial support which will continue to be provided by the approving authority. It is important to notify your Local Authority of any change of address or if the child leaves your care.**  , | | |
| **Date proposed plan is completed:** | **Date of SGO once granted:** | **Is the child currently looked after or has the child previously been looked after by the local authority. Y/N** |

**SUPPORT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

| **Family time/Contact after the SGO has been made** |
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| **General Support** |
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| * The Special Guardian will assume responsibility for family time/contact arrangements |
| * The Special Guardian will facilitate and promote the agreed contact plan (if applicable) |
| Advice and guidance with family time/ contact arrangements will be available from the SGO post order support team. |

**SPECIFIC SUPPORT**

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| **Identified need** | **Person responsible for delivering the service** | **Service to meet the need** | **Timescale for delivery** | **Planned outcome of service** |
| Family time/Contact to be arranged and managed appropriately and in (name of child)’s best interests.  SG’s name can seek advice and support about future family time/ contact issues at any time during the life of the Order. | SG’s name  SGO post order support team | Advice and support from the SGO team | As and when changes arise and ongoing until child reaches the age of 18. | (name of child) to continue to have contact with parent and wider family as appropriate and to support their identity development. |
| If supervised contact by the Trust has been agreed for a transitional period post order, a review of this will take place on (date)  Please delete this section if no supervised contact by the Trust | Childcare social worker  SG’s name |  | State timescale as agreed. | To allow a smooth transition from statutory supervised contact to contact supervised by the Special Guardian. |

| **Health needs** |
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| **General Support** |
| The Special Guardian will promote the child’s health and development, ensuring that they are registered with a GP, dentist, and optician. |
| A child under 5 years of age can receive visits from the Health Visitor. Contact can be made with the Health Visitor via the family GP. |
| A child over the age of 5 can receive a service from the school nurse. Contact can be made with the school Nurse via the family GP. |
| Where the child has been looked after by Birmingham Children’s Trust immediately before SGO is granted, the child’s social worker will assist the Special Guardian by ensuring that they have received all the medical information available for the child at the time of placement, including the child’s red book and a copy of the latest medical review report. |
| Where appropriate further support may be offered on the specific medical needs of the child where appropriate. |

**SPECIFIC SUPPORT**

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| **Identified need** | **Person responsible for delivering the service** | **Service to meet the need** | **Timescale for delivery** | **Planned outcome of service** |
| (name of child) to attend GP when required. | SG’s name and GP to work together and GP to lead on managing health (primary care) | Health services – GP, Health Visitors and school nursing | When required | (name of child) to be provided appropriate health care as required |
| (name of child) to attend regular appointments with the dentist and opticians. | SG’s name and Health professionals | Health services - Dental practice and opticians | On going | (name of child) to be provided appropriate health care |

| **Education** |
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| **General Support** |
| The Special Guardian will identify appropriate school placement for the child and select suitable educational provisions when age appropriate. |
| Advice and guidance with education will be available from the SGO post order support team. |
| The SGO Support Team can also offer advice to schools on specific SGO related issues and can provide advocacy for families if appropriate. |
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| **Identified need** | **Person responsible for delivering the service** | **Service to meet the need** | **Timescale for delivery** | **Planned outcome of service** |
| (name of child) to be supported in education | SG’s name  School | School and Education | Throughout education | name of child) to be provided appropriate education as required |
| If required, SG’s name to seek additional support through their educational provision.  If the additional needs cannot be met by the educational provision to seek guidance from the education department.  SG’s name to seek advice and guidance from the SGO Support Team | SG’s name  School  SGO Support Team | School and Education | Throughout education | (name of child) to attain the best possible educational experience and outcomes. |

| **Emotional and Behavioural** |
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| **General Support** |
| The Special Guardian will seek universal support via education, or their GP initially should they require support with behavioural or emotional issues.  If ongoing challenges occur an assessment of need can be requested via the SGO support team. The team can provide tailored support and help signposting to universal services. |
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**SPECIFIC SUPPORT**

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| **Identified need** | **Person responsible for delivering the service** | **Service to meet the need** | **Timescale for delivery** | **Planned outcome of service** |
| SG’s name can request an assessment of need from the SGO Support Team if and when the needs of (name of child) change, this will include a review of the existing support plan. | SG’s name  SGO Support Team | Birmingham Children’s Trust | On-going during the life of the Order. | (name of child) to be offered support or services identified as needed to promote emotional wellbeing. |
| SG’s name can access training and support groups offered by the SGO support team to help them support the emotional needs of the child.. | SG’s name  SGO Support Team | Birmingham Children’s Trust  Kinship | On-going during the life of the Order | SG’s name to be able to support the emotional wellbeing of (name of child) |
| For children that were previously looked after an application can be made to the Adoption Support Fund for a specific therapeutic intervention. An assessment of need would need to be completed by the SGO support team and they would then make the application.  The Adoption Support Fund is available to children up to, and including, the age of 21 who were immediately in care before the SGO was granted OR left care under a Care Arrangement Order to enable the assessment of a potential Special Guardian. It is also available when a plan of reunification back to an SGO carer is being formulated.  If (name of child) was not previously looked after and a therapeutic support need is identified, SG’s name can contact the SGO Support Team and request a consultation. After the consultation the team will support the carer to make the relevant referrals to the appropriate services, if needed. | SG’ sname  SGO Support Team | .Birmingham Children Trust | At any point up until (name of child) reaches the age of 21 years for access to the ASF for formerly looked after children. | (name of child) to be offered support or services to promote emotional well being |

| **Cultural / Identity** |
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| The Special Guardian will promote the child’s cultural, and identity needs and will seek resources within the wider family and community to support with this as maybe appropriate. |
| Advice and guidance with supporting culture and identity will be available from the SGO post order support team. |
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**SPECIFIC SUPPORT**

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| **Identified need** | **Person responsible for delivering the service** | **Service to meet the need** | **Timescale for delivery** | **Planned outcome of service** |
| If the child was previously looked after by the Trust, the social worker for the child will provide life story information or later in life letter to support the narrative shared by (carer name)  SG’s name can access support regarding life story by contacting the SGO post order support team post. | SG’s name  Child’s social worker | Birmingham Children Trust | As required | (name of child) will have a better understanding of his/her life and why they are living with their SGO carers. |

| **Additional Support Needs (including financial support)** |
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| The Special Guardian will ensure that they are accessing all benefits and financial support available to them. Advice and guidance with accessing universal benefits and financial support is available from the SGO post order support team.   |  | | --- | | The Special Guardian will ensure Child’s place of Education is receiving Pupil Premium for the child/ren subject to the order.  The Special Guardian will ensure they have contacted The Child’s Trust Fund to ensure The Child’s Trust Fund has the correct details of whom to contact when the child/ren is/are able to access the monies held in The Child Trust Fund. | |  |   Advice, guidance, and training in a wide range of matters that may not be listed in this plan are available from the SGO post order support team. |
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**SPECIFIC SUPPORT**

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| **Identified need (not listed previously)** | **Person responsible for delivering the service** | **Service to meet the need** | **Timescale for delivery** | **Planned outcome of service** |
| The SGO post order support team will provide support for the first six months post order. | SGO post order support team | Birmingham Children’s Trust | First six months following the granting of an SGO. | SG’S name will get the support that they need to manage the transition to SGO and meet (name of child)’s needs. |
| Financial support will be considered within the SGO assessment in line with the financial policy for permanence. | Child’s social worker and assessing social worker. | Birmingham Children’s Trust | Within the assessment period | This financial support is intended to assist the family to adjust and transition to a new family arrangement. |
| In line with SGO Regulations there will be an annual review of any financial support provided | SGO Support Team  SG’s name | Birmingham Children’s Trust | Annually | The SGO carers will be getting the correct level of financial support and confirmation that the child remains in the arrangement is confirmed. |
| Review of SGO support Plan – this can be requested at anytime during the life of the SGO Order. | SGO Support Team  Special Guardian | Birmingham Children’s Trust | As required | To ensure that the SGO Support Plan reflects the current needs and to review any change in circumstances. |
| Access to training via the SGO Support Team | SG’s name  SGO Support Team | Birmingham Children’s Trust | As required | SG’s name will be able to build on their confidence and ability in meeting the needs of (name of child) |
| Access to peer support groups | SGO Support Team  Kinship | Birmingham Children’s Trust |  | SG’s name can meet, and gain support from, other SGO carers. |

| Testamentary Guardian |
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| Appointing a legal guardian for children in your care is an important consideration, should you pass away before the children reach 18 years of age. A testamentary guardian is the person you feel would be in the best position to raise the child if you were not able to do so. It can be a daunting decision and the SGO support team are able to provide some guidance and key considerations to help you. Please also see the website.  You can appoint a guardian in a separate document, but it is good practice to include the appointment of a guardian in your will. It is important to discuss thoroughly with the person you wish to appoint as guardian. |
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| **Authorisation of plan** | | |
| Prepared by: | Signature: | Date completed |
| Children’s Team Manager | Signature | Date reviewed |
| Post SGO Support Team | Signature | Date approved |

# Reviews of the SGO Support Plan

In accordance with SGO Regulations 2005, the SGO Support Plan must be reviewed regularly.

Within Birmingham Children’s Trust, the Support Plan will be reviewed at various points including:

* At the request of the Special Guardian(s)
* Where there has been a change in circumstances
* Where it is assessed that the plan requires update
* An annual review will be completed where financial support is provided.

# Declaration

A copy of the SGO Support Plan in relation to

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| **Name of the child:** |  |

**was received on** (Date):

In signing this document, I confirm my understanding that the services set out in the plan will be offered to us should we be awarded a Special Guardian for the named child.

If I am not able to accept this proposal and wish to make written representations. I understand that these must be given to Birmingham Children’s Trust no later than 10 days of the date shown above.

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| **Print Name** | **Signature** | | **Date** |
| **Special Guardian 1:** | | | |
|  | |  |  |
| **Special Guardian 2:** *(where applicable)* | | | |
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Contact details for the SGO post order support team: **0121 303 2621**

[**SGOandPrivateFosteringSupportTeam@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk**](mailto:UG_SGOandPrivateFosteringSupportTeam@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk)