**Special Guardianship Order Support Plan 2023**

**Part One: Basic Information**

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| 1. Purpose:
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| The Court is being asked to grant a Special Guardianship Order to **carer/s name/s** in respect of **child’s name/s** and therefore to convey overarching Parental Responsibility to these carer/s.This Support Plan identifies the child’s individual needs and how these can best be met by the carer/s both now and in the longer term.Child’s name is currently residing with **please complete** under the legal auspices of **please complete and note if the applicant is their approved foster carer (inc connected persons foster carers)** |

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| 1. Photograph and Details of child:
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| Full Name |  |
| N number: |  |
| DOB: |  |

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| 1. Photograph of prospective Special Guardian/s:
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| 1. Details of prospective Special Guardian:
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| Address: |  |
| Telephone/s: |  |  |
| e mail/s:  |  |  |

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| 1. People involved in developing the support plan:
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|  | **Full Name** | **Dates, wishes and feelings obtained:** |
| Child/young person: |  |  |
| Parent: |  |  |
| Parent: |  |  |
| Special Guardians: |  |  |
| School/early years setting: |  |  |
| Any other relative or other person the Local Authority considers relevant: |  |  |
| Social Worker: |  |  |
| Social Worker: |  |  |

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| 1. Referrals for Support Submitted
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| **Agency Referred To** | **Who referred** | **Referral Date** |
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**Part Two: Child’s Needs**

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| 1. **Child’s identity and related needs:**
* Ethnic, cultural and linguistic heritage
* Religious heritage (if any) and their own expression of this
* Disability
* Gender identity/emerging sexuality
* Sense of belonging
* Understanding life story
* Family ‘script’
* Does the carer have the child’s birth certificate?
* Does the carer have the child’s passport?
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| 1. Child’s wishes and feelings (considered according to age and understanding) in relation to identity including religious and cultural upbringing:
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| 1. Prospective Special Guardians’ views and wishes in relation to identity including religious and cultural upbringing:
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| 1. Has a ‘Life Story’ narrative and other information been provided to carer and child? If yes, do the prospective Special Guardians understand this and know how they can help the child understand why they cannot live with their parent/s?
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| 1. Social Work Assessment and analysis of child’s identity and related needs:
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| 1. Identified support needs of child and prospective Special Guardians in relation to the child’s identity:
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| **Actions identified** | **Who is responsible** | **Timescale** |
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| 1. Child’s health and related needs:
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| 1. Child’s current health and any treatment:

Does the carer have the child’s Health Record? |
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| 1. Child’s future health needs and how these will be met:
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| *Child’s name* will need to continue to have regular access to her routine health appointments including dentist, opticians and any other relevant medical appointments required. |
| 1. Identified support needs of child and prospective Special Guardians in relation to the child’s health:
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| **Actions identified** | **Who is responsible** | **Timescale** |
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| 1. Child’s education and related needs:
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| 1. Details of the child’s educational history and attainments including names, addresses and types of provision with dates attended:
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| 1. Current educational provision including details of any additional needs and how these are being met:
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| 1. Detail any interests and after school activities the child has engaged in or would like to do:
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| 1. Child’s future educational needs including any aspirations and how these might be met:
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| Please check our NC Trust virtual school support offer[Guidance for parents and guardians of previously looked-after children (PLAC) | North Northamptonshire Council (northnorthants.gov.uk)](https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/virtual-school/guidance-parents-and-guardians-previously-looked-after-children-plac)[Guidance for parents and guardians of previously looked after-children (PLAC) | West Northamptonshire Council (westnorthants.gov.uk)](https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/virtual-school/guidance-parents-and-guardians-previously-looked-after-children-plac) |
| 1. Identified support needs of child and prospective Special Guardian/s in relation to the child’s education:
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| **Actions identified** | **Who is responsible** | **Timescale** |
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| 1. Child’s development including behaviour and emotional wellbeing and related needs:
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| 1. Comment on child’s development and any specific issues relating to behaviour, emotional needs or self-care skills including that due to any harm the child has suffered:
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| 1. Identified support needs of the child and Special Guardian/s in relation to the child’s behavioural and developmental needs:
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| *Carers may need support and guidance in the future around how to appropriately manage and* *provide Child’s name with the support they require due to past adversities, experiences and difficulties that may present for Child’s name now or in the future.**Since Child’s name has/has not (Please delete) been known as a Child in Care (Looked After Child) and therefore will/will not (Please delete) have access to the Adoption Support Fund (ASF) in the future, to enable access to therapeutic support if needed. This is accessed via the post Adoption and SGO Support Team and the family can self-refer at any time in the child’s minority.****Please check these links for our support offer and the ASF so that your plan can give info about what support is available.***[Special guardianship orders - Adoption in Northamptonshire (nctrust.co.uk)](https://www.nctrust.co.uk/adoption-fostering/adoption/Pages/special-guardianship-orders.aspx)[Adoption support fund (ASF) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/adoption-support-fund-asf) |
| Actions identified | Who is responsible | Timescale |
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| 1. Family time – maintaining connections across the family and friends network:

***It is recognised that children’s needs and feelings about family time will change over the time*** |
| 1. Description of who the child currently sees regularly and how this impacts on them (including those with relatives and any other person the Local Authority considers relevant (for example, previous Foster Carer/s):
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| 1. Any risks associated with family time posed by the child’s parents, relatives or any other person the Local Authority considers relevant:
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| 1. The child’s views and wishes about who they want to see, how often and where.
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| 1. All parent’s views and wishes regarding spending time with their child:
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| 1. Views and wishes of other relatives and people identified that the child would spend time with, following the order:
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| 1. What are the prospective Special Guardian’s feelings in relation to the child spending time with each of those identified in sections 5 a-e ?

Do they identify any concerns and what support they have in place that can meet these? |
| Please note that the post order team cannot supervise SGO family time but can give advice and mediation if needed later on, but at the start of an order there should be a clear family time support agreement and support for this within family/community networks. |
| 1. Social worker analysis of the value, meaning and purpose of each family time planned and what is in the child’s best interest. Include reflection on how it is likely to impact the child, if there are multiple people to stay in touch with and whether the benefit outweighs the impacts.
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| 1. *Recommendations* regarding contact including who it is important for the child to stay in touch with, how often we advise that they see them initially when, where.

*Advice* regardingand any risks and how Special Guardians can manage these and any proposals for managing future changes in contact: |
| Please be aware that we cannot impose conditions we can only advise |
| 1. Identified support needs of child, Special Guardian/s and parent/s in relation to keeping in touch (family time) including any additional financial support that has been agreed for travel:
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| **Actions identified** | **Who is responsible** | **Timescale** |
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| 1. Financial support:
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| 1. Details of financial support agreed (allowance amount and duration and review):
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| Please refer to the policy <https://proceduresonline.com/trixcms2/media/17229/financial-support-for-children-subject-to-sgo-nov-2022.docx> The child’s social worker (or supervising fostering SW where agreed as appropriate) and their manager are responsible to make a business case for any additional funding requested to the SGO Resources Panel. Evidence of approval will need to be included with this support plan before it is signed off.Review is annual with a means test being applied and Special Guardians must provide financial information and evidence each year in order to maintain their allowances |

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| 1. Special Guardianship:
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| 1. Child’s wishes and feelings regarding Special Guardianship and how these should be considered in light of age and understanding:
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| 1. All parents’ wishes and feelings regarding Special Guardianship:
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| 1. Wishes and feelings of the prospective Special Guardian/s regarding Special Guardianship including any hopes and expectations the prospective Special Guardian has for the child’s future:
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| 1. Wishes and feelings of any of the child’s relatives, or any other person the Local Authority considers relevant regarding the child:
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| 1. Plans for reviewing the Support Plan:

The Special Guardianship Support Plan will be reviewed with the Special Guardian every 12 months, along with the financial allowances. Following this, you will be contacted annually by letter and asked to provide information to confirm your continuing eligibility for an allowance, and you will be invited to contact us if your support needs have changed. Failure to return financial information within the timescale may result in the loss of your allowance. We can support you to complete forms if needed by contacting our Financial Allowances Officer on sgo-admin@nctrust.co.uk You can also request a review of your support needs at any time by contacting the Post Adoption & SGO Support Team directly on postadoption@nctrust.co.uk or by phone on 01604 367301.The worker/s identified as responsible for review of the SGO support plan is/are: |
| The Financial Allowances Officer in liaison with the Team Manager of Post Adoption & SGO Support Team. Please do not alter |

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| Agreement to this plan by: |
| **Child/young person** |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Date: |  |
| **Special Guardian/s:** |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Date: |  |
| **Social Worker/s:** |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Date: |  |
| **Team Manager, Adoption & SGO Support Team** |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Date: |  |
| **Team Manager, Child’s Team** |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Date: |  |
| **Service Manager for Child’s Team** |
| Name: | Signature: |
| Date: |  |