**Attendance at Support groups**

Fulltime (task or permanence) main carers should plan to attend at least 4 support groups a year, their partners should attend at least 2.

Support carers (both if in a couple) should plan to attend at least 2 support groups a year.

**(Attendance at Voices drop-in does not count towards attendance at groups)**

Supported Lodgings hosts are welcome at support groups but there is no requirement for them to attend.

**Useful Numbers**

Fostering Duty (8.45am-5.15pm Monday-Thursday -4.45pm Friday)

0114 2734940

Email fosteringduty@sheffield.gov.uk

Fostering Helpline (5.15pm-8.45am Mon-Thurs, Friday 4.45pm -8.45 Monday and all bank holidays)

0114 2056555

Fostering Placement Finding Team

0114 2734532

Fostering Reception

0114 2734941

|  |
| --- |
| Sheffield Fostering ServiceSupport Groups 2024-25A group of people sitting in chairs  Description automatically generated |
|   |

**Disability Support group**

A support group for foster carers who are caring for children with a disability only. Discussions will be generally focused on supporting children with disabilities and each other.

**WHEN: Wednesdays either 10am-12 pm or 7-8.30 pm**

**WHERE: Via zoom *ID: 398 528 3170
Password: foster* or in the Garden Room, St Mary’s Church, Bramall Lane, S2 4QZ**

**Staff Members: Waheeda Din and Laura Carnell**

18th Sept 7-8.30 pm via zoom.

20th Nov 10-12 at St Mary’s. **Leanne** Virtual School

15th Jan 10-12 via zoom. **Barbara Sharrock** Parenting strategies **TBC**

19th March 7-8.30 pm via Zoom.

14th May 10-12 at St Mary’s.

9th July 7-8.30pm via zoom.

**Children’s groups**:

**Born Creative**

This group is for the foster carer’s own children aged 8-15.

Children take part in a mixture of activities and outings,

it is hoped they will benefit from spending time with others

who have a shared experience of being part of a fostering family.

Children need to be referred to the group by their fostering

social worker (SWF). Information about group sessions and

activities will then be shared with foster carers.

**Staff Members: Helen Egginton**

**The Create and Change Group (Little CiCC)**

This is a young people’s group for care experienced children aged

7 – 11. The group also welcomes carers and their own children,

and always runs for a couple of hours a session; we include

a welcome game, a voice activity and then the main session

 focus which can be anything from archery to crafts and music.

**Children in Care Council**

This is a young people's group for care experienced children aged

12 – 17. We also do creative projects and activities to express

ourselves and help change the care system for ourselves and others.

We’d love for more young people to get involved! If interested

in joining either of the above groups, message or

call **Siobhan on 07917 137 095**

**Sheffield Care Leavers' Union (SCLU)**

This is a young people's group for care leavers' age 17 – 25.

We do creative projects and activities to express ourselves

and help change the care system for ourselves and others!

We’d love for you to get involved! If you are interested in

joining us, message or call **Sarah on 07392860622**

 **Support carer’s Support group**

A support group for foster carers who offer holiday and support care. Discussions and topics will be varied but of relevance to those caring for children on a part-time basis.

**WHEN: Tuesday evenings 7-8.15pm**

**WHERE: Mostly via** **Zoom *ID: 398 528 3170
Password: foster***

**With some sessions at Stadia Technology Park, Attercliffe, 60 Shirland Lane, S9 3SP**

**Staff Members: Laura Carnell and Gerard Morgan**

1st Oct – In person at Stadia.

3rd Dec – Via zoom. **Lisa Slaughter NHS** Well-being

4th Feb -Via zoom.

22nd April – in person at Stadia. **Barbara Sharrock** Parenting strategies

17th June – Via zoom. – **Brad McAnearney** Current trends in Illegal drug use for young people

**Burton Street Support group**

**WHEN: Thursdays 10-12**

**WHERE: The Burton Street Foundation, 57 Burton Street, Hillsborough, S6 2HH**

**CHILDCARE: There will be an informal creche for a small number of children led by foster carers in a next-door room**

**PARKING: Free on-street parking nearby**

**Staff Members: Sarah Riaz and Yvonne Blake**

3rd Oct- **Brad McAnearney** Current trends in Illegal drug use for young people

5th Dec - **Christmas Social**

6th Feb- **Barbara Sharrock** **TBC** Parenting strategies

17th April -

5th June – **Lisa Slaughter NHS** Well-being

**Voices Drop-In (for foster carers)**

please note that this is not a support group that the fostering service deliver, but is a Zoom group run by foster carers, to offer peer support to other carers. All are welcome.

***Zoom ID*: *867 6894 0752* *Password*: *voices***

**All groups start at 7pm**

**Contact: Foster carer Victoria Dugdale:**

**Veiward@hotmail.com**

Tuesday 24th September

Tuesday 19th November

Tuesday 14th January

Tuesday 17th March

Tuesday 13th May

Tuesday 8th July

**St Mary’s Support group**

**WHEN: Fridays 10-12**

**WHERE: The Garden Room, St Mary’s Church, Bramall Lane, S2 4QZ.**

**PARKING: Free Parking but collect a parking pass from the main reception.**

**Staff Members: Vickie Rattenbury and Ellen Jenkins**

11th Oct - **Barbara Sharrock** Parenting strategies

13th Dec – **Christmas social**

28th Feb – **Forensic CAMHs** HSB (Harmful sexual behaviour)

25th April - **Lisa Slaughter NHS** Well-being

27th June – **End of year social**

**Online Support group**

**WHEN: Tuesdays 10-12**

**WHERE: All sessions will be via zoom *ID: 398 528 3170 Password: foster***

**Staff Members: Julie Bullement and Sarah Froggatt**

24th Sept - **Barbara Sharrock** Parenting strategies

19th Nov- **Brad McAnearney** Current trends in Illegal drug use for young people

21st Jan- **Youmna Mouhamad** New product for Afro hair

25th March – **Kirsty Pyatt** Shared lives

20th May - F**orensic CAMHS** HSB (Harmful sexual behaviour)

15th July

**Sunshine Corner: Baby & Toddler Support Group**

A support group for carers with babies and toddlers. All foster carers, whether they currently have a child in placement or are waiting for placement, are welcome. This is a wonderful opportunity for foster carers to meet, share experiences, and find support, while their little ones engage in fun and educational play.

**WHEN: Tuesday mornings 10:00 – 12:00 every other month**

**WHERE: Lowedges Community Centre, Gresley Rd, Sheffield, S8 7HL**

**Staff Members: Laura Fearnehough & Edita Stiborova**

Tuesday 10th September

Tuesday 12th November

Tuesday 14th January

Tuesday 11th March

Tuesday 13th May

Tuesday 15th July

Places are limited. To secure your spot, **please book via Eventbrite** [www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/sheffield-fostering-training-and-development-43096759253](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/sheffield-fostering-training-and-development-43096759253)

**UASC Support group**

An online support group for foster carers and supported lodgings hosts who care for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children/Young Refugees. Discussions and topics will be varied but of relevance to those caring for these young people.

**WHEN: Tuesdays 10-12 or 6-7.30pm**

***Zoom ID: 398 528 3170 Password: foster***

**Staff Members: Tahira Faiz, Yasmina Fynn**

24th September -10am to 12pm

12th November -6pm to 7.30pm

 14th January – 10am to 12pm

 11th March – 6pm to 7:30pm

 13th May – 10am to 12pm

 **BAME Support group**

A support group for foster carers who identify as Black, Asian or from a Minority group only. Discussions and topics will be varied but this is a safe space.

**WHEN: Thursday Mornings 10-12**

**WHERE: Via Zoom *ID: 398 528 3170
Password: foster* or at Park Centre and Library, Off Duke Street, Samson Street, S2 5QT**

**PARKING: Free on-street parking nearby**

**Staff Members: Nagina Kousar and Currina Nembhard**

12th Sept via Zoom.

12th Dec at the Park Centre.

13th Feb via Zoom. – **Epilepsy awareness/training**

24th April at the Park Centre. **Barbara Sharrock TBC**

26th June via Zoom.

**Evening Support group**

## **WHEN: Tuesday evenings 7-8.30pm every month**

## **WHERE: Via Zoom *ID: 398 528 3170 Password: foster* or at Stadia Technology Park, Attercliffe, 60 Shirland Lane, S9 3SP**

## **Staff Members: Rujena Hussain and Kim Nixon**

17th Sept At Stadia, **Lucy Revis** -Music/Boxing clubs

22nd Oct – Via Zoom. **Nichola Dixon** Foster Talk

17th Dec – At Stadia. **Christmas social**.

25th Feb – At Stadia

15th April – Via Zoom. **Lisa Slaughter NHS**

Well-being

12th June – At Stadia