

Telford Fostering

Children's Safeguarding & Family Support

Training Manual for Foster Carers 2019/20



Foster Carers Training Manual for Child Protection and Family Support Services Policy Governance

Title	Foster Carers Training Manual
Purpose/scope	A Manual of the training on offer to foster carers of Telford and Wrekin. The manual also outlines the expectations for mandatory training.
Subject key words	Training, TSDS, support
Council Priority	protect and support our most vulnerable children and adults, put our children and young people first, improve local people's prospects through education and skills training
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Service Improvement & Efficiency Validation	
Legal Sign Off	
Finance Sign Off	
Approver	Assistant Director: Child Protection and Family Support services

Introduction

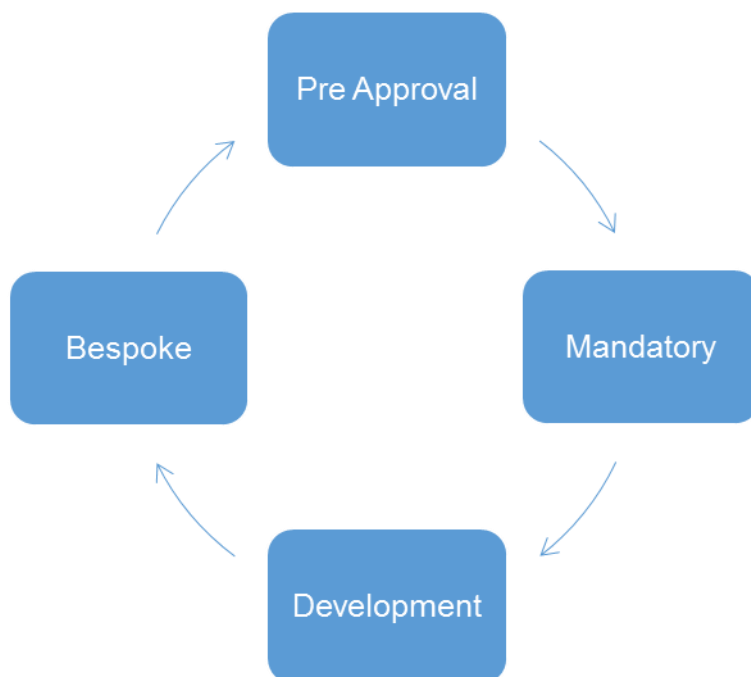
Telford & Wrekin Fostering service recognises and values the training of foster carers by ensuring all foster carers have access to a learning provision to support them within their role.

For new carers and carers who have already completed their skills training this is training manual for foster carers of Telford & Wrekin Council. New carers will have learned on session 6 of the Skills to Foster about the training manual and all carers will benefit from the information it contains, including how to access Ollie, our online learning portal and how to set up your account and login. If you are receiving this manual without attending Skills to Foster please consult with your supervising social worker on how to access OLLIE.

This manual summarises the training courses that are available to you, including the courses that you will need to complete before your approval at panel and the mandatory courses that you are obliged to complete in your first year of fostering and other developmental training opportunities throughout your fostering career. It should help you and your supervising social worker to identify training opportunities to meet your need within your specific role. You should read this manual in conjunction with the Learning and Development Policy, which you will find online on the Tri.x website.

If you live a distance away from Telford then you should speak to your supervising social worker who will be able to liaise with the local authority that you live in to see if they can provide you with the relevant training.

A Foster Carers Learning Journey



Skills to Foster

Delivered over three consecutive Saturdays.

- Session 1** What do Foster Carers do?
- Session 2** Identity and Life Chances
- Session 3** Working with Others
- Session 4** Understanding and Caring for Children
- Session 5** Safer Caring
- Session 6** Transitions (6a) Review and Conclusions (Introduction to OLLIE)
- Session 7** My Family Fosters (for sons and daughters). Completed separately from the Skills to Foster course and a member of the team will contact you to arrange this session with your children.

Foster Carers Pre Approval Training

We expect you to complete the following courses alongside the Skills to Foster course.

Child Protection Introduction (e-learning)
Equality and Diversity (e-learning)
Information Governance (e-learning)
Introduction to Behaviour Management (e-learning)
Reporting and Recording Workshop (face to face) (3 year update required) – If there are two carers in the family then they both have to complete this workshop
Safer Care Workshop (face to face) (3 year update required) – If there are two carers in the family then they both have to complete this workshop

Mandatory training courses within the first year after approval

Induction to Fostering – Completed within 6 weeks with allocated worker (refer to the Induction Checklist)
Training, Support and Development workbook – one per household (Implemented by the government and completion is a statutory requirement)
Health Journey
Contact and working with birth parents
Child protection (3 year update required) – If there are two carers in the family then they both have to complete this workshop
First Aid (3 yearly update required) – If there are two carers in the family then they

both have to complete this workshop

Solihull Approach Understanding Your Child (X3 sessions). You will need to attend this course to enable you to attend any other Solihull workshops. **Coming soon.**

Child Exploitation – For foster carers approved to care for children 7 years plus

Development courses

Introduction into Therapeutic Parenting (e-learning)

Personal Resilience and Compassion Fatigue

Solihull Approach Attachment (You need to attend understanding your child in the mandatory training before booking this). **Coming soon.**

Life Story Workshop

Introduction to Child Development Workshop

Education Workshop

Managing Allegations

Managing Disclosures Workshop

Child Care Law and Legal Processes Workshop

Delegated Authority Workshop

Understanding Anxiety in Children Workshop

Understanding Disabilities Workshop

Managing Actual and Potential Aggression (MAPA)

Preparation for Adoption

Trauma and Loss

Solihull Approach Understanding Trauma (You need to attend understanding your child in the mandatory training before booking this). **Coming soon.**

SGO Workshop

Learn through Play

Solihull Approach Caring for Teenagers Workshop (You need to attend understanding your child in the mandatory training before booking this). **Coming soon.**

Medication Administration

Basic Drug Awareness

Supporting a Child Through Therapy

Staying Put

Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Peer Mentoring Training

E-Learning

Health & Safety Introduction

Emotional Abuse (Children)

Children with Disabilities

Food safety Level 1

Food Safety Level 2

Child Sexual Exploitation

Child sexual exploitation Awareness

Care Certificate Equality & Diversity

Autism Awareness Asperger Syndrome

Autism Awareness Autism and Education

Autism Awareness Challenging Behaviour
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Autism Awareness an Introduction

Information Governance

Introduction to Adapt

PREVENT

Nutritional Awareness for Those Working with Children

Female Genital Mutilation

Personal Resilience

MindEd

Domestic Abuse Awareness

E safety

Ollie and TSDS support groups

If anyone requires support in accessing OLLIE or completing your TSDS then Natalie Woodhouse will be available every Tuesday 9:30 to 3pm at Granville house. There is no need to book as these are drop in sessions but please remember to bring along your electronic device i.e. iPad or laptop.

External Training

To further your development, you may be eligible for funding to access these courses free of charge. For further information, please visit www.learntelford.ac.uk and nationalcareers@telford.gov.uk. These courses include accreditation.

Examples of the courses available are:

Introduction to Working with Children and Young People
Understand Behaviour that Challenges
Child Development
Maths
English
Digital Skills
Certificate in Autism
Child Psychology
Understanding Nutrition and Health
Understanding Safe Handling of Medicines
Working with People with Mental Health Needs

Bespoke Training

Dependent on the child's individual needs we can source bespoke training packages to support you to care for them appropriately. If you feel that you require such a package then you should discuss this with your supervising social worker and during care planning meetings.

Support Groups

Support Group	Date	Venue
Foster Carer Consultation – for all approved foster carers	Thursday 23 rd May 2019 18:00 to 20:00	Ketley Community Centre
	Friday 24 th May 2019 10:00 to 12:00	Ketley Community Centre
<p>There is an expectation that all foster carers attend these consultations. The consultations provide foster carers with an update of the service, a training/guest speaking element and an opportunity to network with your peers and the fostering social workers.</p>		
Men Who Foster – for all male approved foster carers	Wednesday 24 th April 2019 18:30 to 20:30	Strickland House, Wellington
<p>This group is to support men in the role of a foster carer. It provides males the opportunity to network with their peers and share experiences and advice with each other.</p>		
Nurture Support Group Pre Approval – for mainstream foster carer applicants in the assessment process	Wednesday 24 th April 10:00 to 12pm	Ketley Community Centre
	Wednesday 22 nd May 2019 18:00 to 20:00	Unit 4 Stafford Park
	Wednesday 26 th June 2019 18:00 to 20:00	Unit 4 Stafford Park
	Wednesday 24 th July 2019 10:00 to 12:00	Unit 4 Stafford Park
	Wednesday 4 th September 2019 18:00 to 20:00	Unit 4 Stafford Park
	Wednesday 2 nd October 2019 18:00 to 20:00	Unit 4 Stafford Park
	Wednesday 30 th October 2019 10:00 to 12:00	Unit 4 Stafford Park
<p>This group is to support applicants on their journey to becoming foster carers. We will discuss the assessment process as well as Panel! We will also discuss referrals for children requiring placements. Designed to support you through the process, this group has a relaxed atmosphere and is an opportunity to answer any questions you may have and to build your network of support. There will also be some of the sessions where your birth children can attend.</p>		

<p>Nurture Support Group Post Approval – for all approved foster carers within their first 12 months of approval.</p>	<p>Tuesday 7th May 2019, 10am – 12pm Tuesday 4th June 2019, 18:30 – 20:00 Friday 5th July 2019, 12:30 – 14:30 Monday 5th August 2019, 18:30 – 20:00 Friday 6th September 2019, 10am – 12pm Wednesday 9th October 2019, 18:30 – 20:00 Wednesday 6th November 2019, 10am – 12pm Tuesday 3rd December 2019, 18:30 – 20:00</p>	<p>Ketley Community Centre Venue to be confirmed Granville House Venue to be confirmed Granville House Venue to be confirmed Granville House Venue to be confirmed</p>
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These support groups are for foster carers within their first 12 months of approval, it gives opportunity for carers to share their experiences with others. Designed to have a relaxed atmosphere, these groups are a way for carers to connect and socialise with each other whilst listening and learning from others. We will invite guest speaks and members of the team so you have a chance to get to know everyone and their roles.

<p>Connected Persons Support Group – For Connected Person foster carers</p>	<p>1st May 2019, 10am to 12pm 7th June 2019, 10am to 12pm 12th September 2019, 10am to 12pm 6th November 2019, 10am to 12pm</p>	<p>Addenbrooke House Darby House Addenbrooke House Addenbrooke House</p>
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These groups are for connected persons, there is the opportunity to meet other carers and build support networks. Social workers from the fostering team run the group and will often include guest speakers to aid further development.

<p>LAC CAMHS and Life Story Support Group – For all approved foster carers.</p>	<p>Tuesday 26th March 2019, 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Tuesday 30th April 2019, 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Tuesday 28th May 2019, 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Tuesday 23rd July 2019, 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Tuesday 28th August 2019, 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Tuesday 17th September 2019, 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Tuesday 15th October 2019, 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Tuesday 19th November 2019, 10am to 12pm</p>	<p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p> <p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p> <p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p> <p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p> <p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p> <p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p> <p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p> <p>House 4 at Queensway HLC.</p>
<p>The aim of this group is for foster carers to have a supportive and non-judgemental space to talk and reflect about their own experiences of fostering and the challenges they are facing in relation to mental health and emotional wellbeing for the child they care for and themselves.</p>		
<p>Peer Mentoring Support Group</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>TBC</p>
<p>To support foster carers who are part of the Peer Mentoring Scheme. There will be opportunities to discuss the role and any challenges that you are facing with support from your peers.</p>		
<p>Foster Carer Conference</p>	<p>6th December 2019 9:30 to 14:30</p>	<p>Ramada Hotel</p>
<p>Held annually, this conference is an all-day event and is a celebration of the past year in relation to fostering with Telford & Wrekin. With lunch provided there is also guest speakers and opportunities to network with your peers and the fostering team members.</p>		

Stay and chat sessions, Donnington (Foster carer support group)	Term time only, every Thursday. 10:00-12:00	Donnington Children's Centre
Coffee mornings run by an experienced foster carer to offer peer support.		
Foster carers coffee morning	Thursday 7 th May 2019	Held in Pontesbury, please contact dianalloyd62@yahoo.com
Run by foster carers, this group gives carers the opportunity to build networks and share challenges as well as positive experiences. There will be an occasional guest speaker to support development around compassion fatigue.		

Instructions on how to access OLLIE

Website – <http://telford.learningpool.com>

When you access the website click the green box (External Users)

Your user name will be your **First name. Surname**

Your first password will be **welcome** and then prompted to change it.

If you forget your password then go to 'forgotten password' and providing that you have given a valid email address a reset email will be sent

To search courses

Click on **Find Courses**. On the left hand side, of the page there is a yellow box that says **Foster Carers**. Click this box and it will take you to the training available through Telford Fostering. You can also enrol free on all courses that start with **TWSCB** and any **e-learning** courses.

When you have opened the course there is a **grey** link at the bottom of the screen in a black box to enrol, you can then select the date on which you want to attend and click **Sign-up**.