

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS

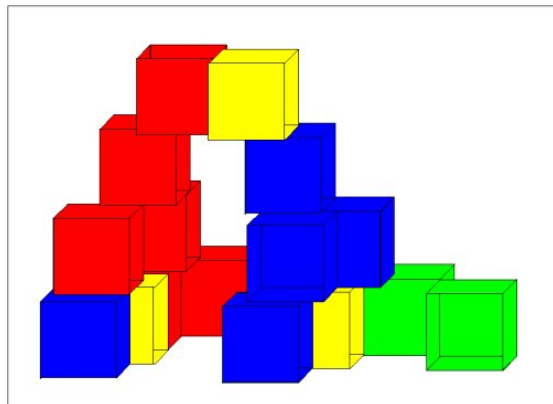


Emergency services 999

Childline 0800 1111

TALKadoption

0808 8081234



Adoption Service



Council Offices

King George V Road

Amersham

Buckinghamshire

HP6 5BN



01494 586395



adoptionteam@buckscc.gov.uk

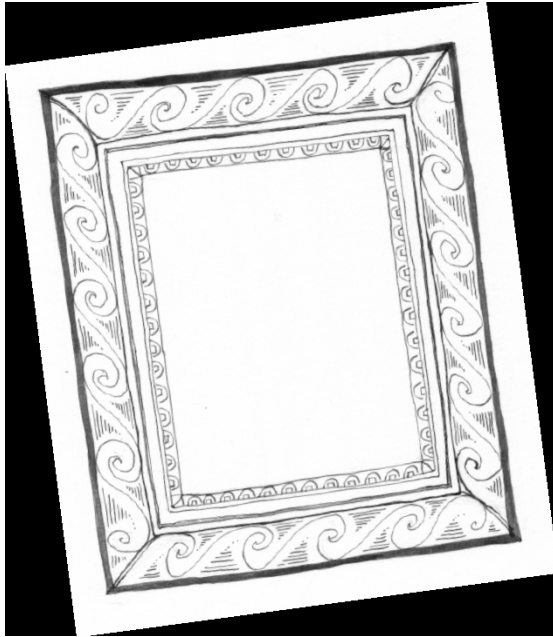


Buckinghamshire
Adoption Service

A Children's
Guide to Adoption

This leaflet belongs to...

.....



Draw a picture of yourself in this frame.

What is Adoption?....

Some children can't live with their own parents. They need to live in a new family, adoption means...

BECOMING PART OF A NEW FAMILY FOREVER!

Why am I adopted ?.....

So you might be wondering why you're going to be adopted?

All children need to grow up in a family with a parent or parents who will love them, look after

them and care for them when they are growing up. Sometimes your birth parents are not able to do this. That is why a social worker will talk with you about where you might live instead and will make sure you are safe, well looked after and well cared for. This may mean finding an adoptive family for you..

How it all happens...

● 1

Sometimes a child can't live with their own family and you are 'looked after' by Social Services.

● 2

Your family, or a Court¹, asks us to look after you.

- You move to stay with another family called 'foster carers'
- We have a meeting (called a 'Review') to decide what to do, and we ask you and everyone else what they want.
- We work out where the child is going to live until they are grown up

● 3

If you can't return to your birth family, your social worker will talk with you about finding a new family.

● 4

A group of people called an Adoption Panel will make sure that adoption is right for you.

- We find you the best family we can to look after you until you grows up
- We try to keep brothers and sisters together

● 5

Sometimes a court also has to decide if the plan is right for you

- We try to get a family as quickly as we can, and we keep talking to you , so we keep let you know what's happening

● 6

Your social worker looks for the right new family for you.

- We check to make sure the family will be good at looking after the you.

● 7

When your social worker thinks they have found a family, the Adoption panel checks to make sure it is the right one for you.

● 8

Before you meet your new family, your social worker and foster carer will show you photographs and tell you all about them.

● 9

You will spend time getting to know each other before you go to live with them

¹ A court is a place people can go when they can't agree about something, and a judge helps by deciding for them

● 10

Your social worker will visit you and your new family for a while.

● 11

When you and your family are ready you will all be invited to court for your adoption

The family asks a Court to say that you can stay forever.

● 12

Adoption order made!

What happens if ...

Sometimes we make mistakes or things go wrong.

We always try to talk to you if you're not happy and help to sort out any problems.

Sometimes this doesn't work and you're still unhappy.

Then you can complain, or your parents, carers or social worker can do it for you.

Ask them to help you

Someone to speak up for you...

NYAS can help you too by:

- Speaking up for you
- Being your friend and maybe taking you out
- Going to meetings with you
- Telling people what you want

- Writing a letter or making a 'phone call for you
- Making a complaint for you.

These people are not part of the Council.

NYAS is managed by Heather Bulpett and this is how you can contact her:

The Coach House,

9 Walton Road

Aylesbury

HP21 7SR or Tel: 01296 432540

Email: heather.bulpett@nyas.net

There is also a national free phone telephone number for children and young people: 0800 6161015 or Email: help@nyas.net

Other useful numbers.... Ofsted

Tel: 0300 123 4666

Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

The Children's Rights Director

Free Phone: 0800 528 0731

Email: rights4me.org