

Depending on your kinship arrangement and the entitlement status of the child in your care they may be eligible for Pupil premium plus and the adoption support fund for therapeutic support. Do contact us and we will be able to advise further.

Benefits of kinship care

- Kinship arrangements provide children with stability without legally separating them from their birth parents
- It helps their mental wellbeing, including preventing trauma
- It promotes their identity and sense of belonging
- It allows children to continue with familiar routines (such as going to the same school or clubs) and see people they are accustomed to seeing

Other services


- Private SGO/non-agency adoption


We complete these assessments, and you will need to contact us via email with your request. Once done, we will then be able to advise you further.




Contact us

To find out more about kinship, please contact our Kinship Duty Team on any of the following ways:

 kinshipduty@sloughchildrenfirst.co.uk

 01753 690 690

 <https://www.sloughchildrenfirst.co.uk/what-we-do/kinship>

Translations and other formats

If you'd like this document translated or in another format please let us know.

Complaints

If you're unhappy about anything and are unable to speak to your SGO Support Social Worker, you can contact the Complaints Manager on [01753 875825](tel:01753875825) or at complaints@sloughchildrenfirst.co.uk



About kinship care



What is kinship care?

Kinship carers are friends or family members who care for a child on a full-time basis because their parents are unable to do so.

Who can be a kinship carer?

A kinship carer is usually a relative, such as a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or older sibling, but it can also be a close family friend or someone with a strong connection to the child such as a teacher, childminder or youth worker.



Types of kinship arrangements

- Informal kinship care
- Formal kinship care
- Private fostering
- Special guardianship
- Child arrangement orders
- Adoption



Support

The Kinship Team at Slough Children First offer support and guidance to kinship carers. Being a kinship carer can be incredibly rewarding, but it can also bring unexpected challenges. You don't have to face them alone. Our support includes:

- Emotional support
- Guidance
- SGO Support Social Worker
- Newsletters and mailing lists
- Drop-in surgeries and 6 weekly forums

We also have fun days three times a year and in our forums, you can meet and talk to other carers.

By contacting us, you can get the help, support, and guidance you need to care for the child in your life. Whether you have questions about finances, legal rights, education, or just need someone to talk to, we're here for you. Getting support early can make a big difference for you and the child you care for.

We hold a multi-agency working approach, and all information shared or agencies involved would be working with us in line with the GDPR standards.

Please note that we will seek consent to contact partner agencies, and you will be aware of who your information is shared with.

Requirements

There are no particular requirements when becoming a kinship carer as this is different to general fostering arrangements. However, all relevant safeguarding checks would be completed and the suitability of the arrangement would be assessed thoroughly.

All kinship arrangements and orders are in place until the child is 18 years old, and therefore kinship arrangements and orders support the child's welfare and special guardianship orders, provide care givers with the overriding parental responsibility to make parenting decisions for the child. The support on offer from the kinship team is voluntary and therefore led by yourself as a kinship carer.