

Statement of Purpose

2014/15





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Introduction



by *Linda Croft*

Welcome to Moments Fostering Agency, this document will outline the way we operate as an Independent fostering service.

We believe that no one has the RIGHT to foster, BUT every child or young person has the RIGHT to live and experience as full a family life as possible, to be supported, develop their own identities and fulfil their potential for their skills and talents to be promoted and to be LISTENED to in a loving foster family.

Moments Fostering fully adopts the FOSTER CARER CHARTER, CHILDREN COME FIRST.

As a Fostering Service Provider it's our duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

It is essential that foster carers are at the heart of arrangements for looked after children and young people, fully engaged, supported and consulted.

Help us make a difference, it only takes a MOMENT to change a child's life.



Document Information

This Statement of Purpose will be made Available to anyone that:

- Works for Moments Fostering Limited
- Foster carers and Prospective carers
- Children and young people placed with our Foster Carers and parents of any such child.
- Local Authorities any child care organisation or any other persons who should be of interest, the general public.


This Statement of Purpose meets the requirements of:

- The Care Standards Act 2000
- The Fostering Service (England) Regulations 2011, and Assessment and of Approval of foster carers:
- Amendment's to the children Act 1989 and Delegation of Authority. July 2013.
- The Fostering Service National Minimum Standards.

Designed by

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The Mission

Moments aim is to make a difference, to transform the lives of children and young people by the quality of care they receive in loving caring families, to provide safe and secure foster placements to meet the assessed needs of children in care and promote and safeguard their welfare. Children and Young people placed with Moments Foster carers will know that their views, wishes and feelings are taken into account in all aspects of their care; are helped to understand why it may not be possible to act upon their wishes in all cases; and know how to obtain support and make a complaint. Also all the views of others with an important relationship to the child are gathered and taken into account.

Company Structure





Aims and Objectives



We aim to provide support and advice to families and foster carers families, enabling children with emotional, behavioural and learning difficulties to have their needs met and to benefit from family life. This is to ensure that placements promote stability and positive outcomes for children and young people by working in partnership.

We aim to offer support, welfare and education services to children in need, including therapeutic services, and also to extend the above services to children and young people who are over normal school age and to provide guidance in training programmes of further education.





Our Staff

- Our registered manager is professionally qualified in social work and management with extensive experience across the public, and private care sectors.
 - All social workers are professionally qualified and registered individually with the HPCP. Many have post qualifying specialist awards and experience related to working with children and young people in foster care.
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- A considerable number of people work for our organisation either as employee's or on an independent, self-employed basis across a variety of roles. For both casual and self-employed workers verification of any necessary formal qualifications in relation to the work undertaken is obtained. All relevant checks and enquiries, for our permanent staff, are carried out to ensure that the welfare of children and young people is safeguarded.
- All staff who undertake work for us on a permanent, casual and self- employed basis, are covered by appropriate professional indemnity and public liability insurance.

Our Services

Short Term

This can be from a few weeks to a few years depending on circumstance, and many short term placements go on to become long term ones.

Long Term

This is for placements that will stay with their Foster Families until independence

Emergency

Many times Emergency placements are just that, placed in an Emergency and therefore placement length hasn't yet been planned.

Respite

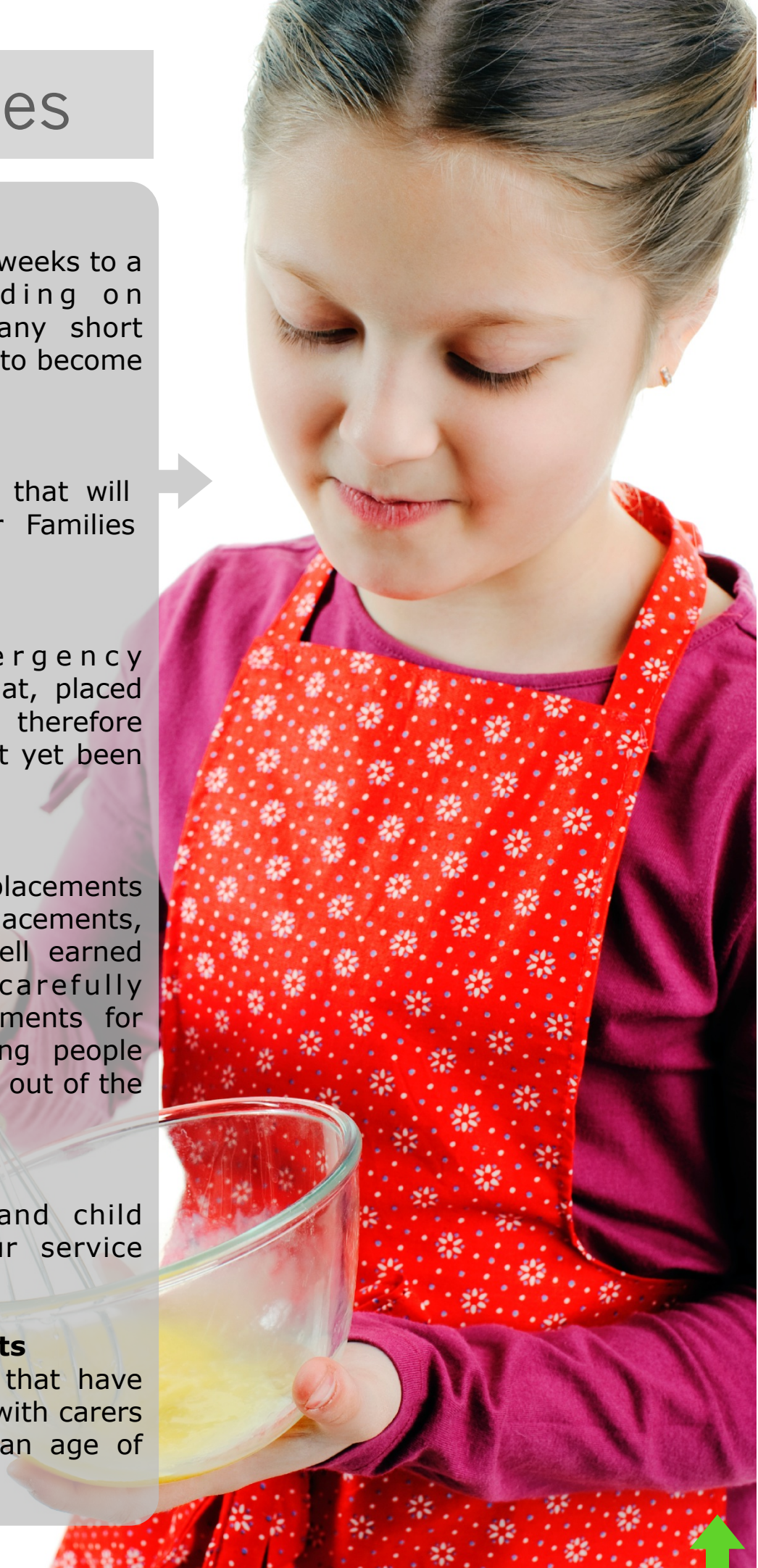
We provide Respite placements for all our in House placements, giving our carers a well earned break whilst still carefully managing the environments for the Children and young people taking alot of the stress out of the situation.

Parent and Child

We provide parent and child placements under our service Moments Umbrella.

Permanent Placements

These are placements that have been approved to stay with carers until until they reach an age of independence.





Recruiting and Assessing

We are continuously looking to recruit capable, adaptable families to care for the ever growing demand of Children in Care.

Stage 1

- Apply online, over the phone, twitter or facebook.
- One of our team will call you to discuss Fostering further and to answer any questions
- And Application pack will be posted out
- Once an Application form is returned a member of the team will come and visit you to perform a home visit.
- Depending on suitability to Foster applicants will be invited to attend a Skills to Foster Course.

Stage 2

We only head into Stage 2 with applicants that we are confident can be passed as Foster carers.

- Form F Assessment (Completed by a Professional experienced Social Worker)
- Attending Panel (An independent Panel convene to approve new and existing carers)

This probably all sounds very daunting however a member of our team will be at hand for the whole process, and they will keep you informed of progress along the way, the average assessment from Home visit stage to Panel is 4 to 6 months.

(Depending on applicants making themselves available).

Checks

- Enhanced DBS checks
- Medicals (with your own doctor)
- Reference's
- Local Authority Checks
- nspcc Checks

Once received we can move on to Stage 2



Training

We have an ongoing training programme that's delivered part in house and partly by expert trainers whose services we bring in, a few of the training courses we cover are here: (This list is not exhaustive)

- First Aid
- Report Writing
- Charms (An online system our carers use to keep daily logs, and log events)
- Behaviour management
- Working with Birth Families
- Child Protection
- Administering medication
- Spotting signs of abuse and neglect
- Health
- Contact
- Education



Support

Our support levels are extremely high each of our carers get:

- Dedicated Supervising Social Worker
- Monthly Support Groups
- Monthly Support drop in sessions (Being introduced 2014)
- 4-6 weekly Home supervisions
- 24/7 Telephone support
- 20 days paid respite care per year
- Representation at meetings (where possible)

Review of Foster Carers

We have a detailed procedure for completing reviews of foster carers which reflect the statute law, regulations, and national minimum standards.



In addition to the requirements to conduct annual reviews, we also undertake additional reviews when appropriate (e.g. following a serious complaint or incident; or a change of terms of approval is proposed). Our review procedure also focuses on the core competences for foster carers, which appear in the BAAF Form F assessment, and includes regular appraisal of training and development needs. In addition, our review procedure also focuses on the Training Support and Development Standards.



Facts and Figures



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Last Ofsted Inspection - January 2012

Result - Outstanding

Established in 2000

Company Number - 5557977

Area's covered - Kent, Sussex, Suffolk,
Hampshire, Wiltshire, London

