

Family First Fostering

WINTER NEWSLETTER

2019

We hope you're all having a lovely winter so far! The weather outside may be cold but we hope you are all enjoying the festive season! Please have a read of our winter newsletter for all the agency's updates and more.

"Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That is why we call it 'The Present'"

This year has been yet another successful and eventful year for Family First Fostering. We've had an exceptional turn out for many of the trainings this year, new foster carers come on board and many eventful trips such as Chessington, Mamma Mia, Alton Towers and a brilliant end of year Christmas Party!

"All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them"

All in all we would just like to thank you all for all your support this year, it doesn't go unnoticed how hard you all work and we truly do appreciate it!

*Best wishes for the New Year!
Family First Fostering*



Winter Wonderland 2019

Things to do

As winter comes it can become harder to find some fun activities to do over the festive season but not to worry, here are some ideas:

- * Winter Wonderland at London's Hyde Park this is free to attend but you have to pay for the attractions.
- * The Polar Express experience at Moor Street Station in Birmingham. This was a sold out event last year and is a known to be a brilliant experience.
- * Go Ice Skating at the Natural History Museum! You can visit the natural history museum for free and pay to do some ice skating on the famous rink afterwards!
- * Visit Centenary Square as the German Christmas Market and famous big wheel and ice skating rink return to Birmingham after almost five years!
- * There's also lots of free fun things to do over the Christmas period such as watch Christmas movies at home, play board games, visit your local town and see Christmas attractions and Markets!

Training:

We at Family First Fostering are impressed with the turnout of training this year. There has been an improvement with not only the attendance of in house training but also with the commitment and dedication of carers completing online training. We hope to see this streak continue or grow throughout the new year and thank everyone for their cooperation!

Please remember we ask for a minimum of 5 online trainings and three in house trainings!

DBS:

Just a reminder to ensure that we have a DBS for anyone at the age of 18 or over who stays in the family home, this including birth children and staying put.

Achievements!

Foster Carer Achievement:

Congratulations to the following foster carers who received awards with us this year, all well deserved.

5 Year Recognition:

RA, A&DM, J&PD, EG&MK, MC, C&MM, A&FB

5 Year Recognition and Outstanding Carers of the year: R&JC

Reporting carer of the year: SNB

Acknowledgement of support work and challenging placements: V&OG

Attendance to training in 2019: DB

New carer of the year: HF

Hard work with complex placement: M&DO

New carer and hard work with complex placements: CR

Young Person Achievement:

A huge well done to HH for receiving the special star award! Very well deserved.

New Placements

It has been a constant struggle to obtain admission forms and signed acknowledgment forms when new placements move in therefore can we please remind you all that we require the admission form returned to us within 24 hours of the placement moving in. We would like to thank those of you who are already on top of this and are working with us in completing documents in a timely manner.

Health and Safety

Another struggle we seem to be having is receiving health and safety documents. This is a regulation therefore we do require all your health and safety documents sent in to admin1@familyfostering.co.uk if expired.

The Festive Season

Just a reminder that whether you celebrate Christmas or not, this time of the year could be hard for some young people therefore it is important to keep them busy. Also a reminder that over the Christmas Period the main office will be closed only on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day but regardless of this we have an on call system so in matters of emergency there will always be a member of staff you can reach!

All in all we would like to thank everybody for making 2019 a great year for Family First Fostering and we look forward to heading into the New Year with you all.



Thank you to all of those who attended our end of year Christmas Party!