

Kent Foster Care Association

“Promoting Professionalism in Foster Care”

Kent Foster Care Association

The KFCA has the objective to

- provide mutual support to KCC foster carers
- promote working partnerships
- represent foster carers as individuals and as a group
- develop awareness, knowledge and skills; encourage foster carer participation
- create opportunities for children and young people to meet together and build confidence and skills
- undertake projects aimed at improving processes and awareness of issues relating to fostering.

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Communication:

Foster Carers work in an 'isolated' environment.

Communication is important.

- Support groups are essential for foster carers.
- KFCA promotes technology as a means of enabling improved communications.
- KCC website invaluable – includes FC Manual.
- The KFCA has it's own website for foster carers.
- Projects – workshops and conference

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Support:

- You can contact KFCA by phone, email or post.
- KFCA will provide advice on specific issues.
- Or advise you where you can obtain more information.
- KFCA will actively support you when there is a problem.
- KFCA will encourage you to use the appropriate channels to address a problem.

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Support:

FosterTalk

- New and exciting support services.
- Wide range of services just for foster carers.
- Membership paid by KCC
- Welcome package sent to all foster carers.

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Representation:

- Represent Kent foster carers nationally via Fostering Network.
- Represent foster carers at county level via County Advisory Board.
- Represent foster carers locally at Support Groups / activities.

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Activities 2011

- FosterTalk Promotion
- KFCA AGM and Carer Conference
- 16+ and the Transition Process Project
- Drama Club Promotion
- Website forum for carers of disabled children

Out of School Activities

Fostered children gain great benefit from participating in out of school activities.

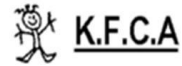
Sports; clubs; crafts – essential for building self esteem, confidence and resilience.

Kent provide free membership to some leisure centres.

Special payment to support activities.

KFCA provides the KFCA Drama Club.

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Welcome to the Kent Foster Care Association.

The County of Kent has approximately 700 KCC registered foster carers who care for well over 1000 Looked After Children and Young People.

The Kent Foster Care Association has been formed to support the foster carers and enhance children's educational status where possible. We aim to promote the professionalism of foster carers and seek appreciation of the significant role they play in managing the care of children and young adults.

Working closely with the local authority, we want to promote the role of fostering to the wider community in recognition of the major shortage of carers within the County and the day to day challenges they face.

We will not only represent Kent foster carers at a County level but also nationally, to secure the provision of services to the children.

Overall our aim is to provide secure and happy homes for the children in our care with acknowledgement that the child's welfare is paramount.

This Website will be updated frequently in the hope of cascading the very latest news and events to the carers of Kent in the fastest possible manner, enjoy . . .

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The KFCA Committee consists of 3 elected officers plus 3 representatives from each of the KCC areas. Other foster carers are welcomed to attend committee meetings, although votes are restricted to 3 per area.

All KCC foster carers have the opportunity to stand for the elected offices. Voting for these offices is done annually on a vote per carer.

Current elected officers:

KFCA Chairman: Cathy Goodwin

KFCA Secretary: Gary Dobner

KFCA Treasurer: Marie Dobner

Area Representatives:

East Kent 1

Barry Dunn

(vacant)

(vacant)

East Kent 2

Annie Webster

(vacant)

(vacant)

Mid Kent

Sue Hope

Teresa Griffiths

Peter Brunwell

West Kent

Yvonne Watson

(vacant)

(vacant)

We have too many vacancies on the committee! If you are a KCC foster care and have a couple of hours a month to spare please [contact KFCA Chairman](#).

The [KFCA Constitution](#) governs the role of the KFCA Committee.

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Contact KFCA: email

[KFCA Chairman](#) (Cathy Goodwin)

[KFCA Secretary](#) (Gary Dobner)

[KFCA Treasurer](#) (Maria Dobner)

Telephone number:

07050641943

Postal Address:

Kent Foster Care Association
63 York Ave.
Walderslade
Chatham
Kent ME5 9ER

Site Suggests or Problems:

[Email the Webmaster](#)

Donations can be sent to the address above; please make cheques payable to:
'Kent Foster Care Association'.

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Membership is free.

All KCC foster carers are automatically members.

KFCA is run by volunteers; a committee meets regularly.

KFCA has a website where you can get more information.

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Final Message:

- The KFCA is there to assist you
- It can only be effective if you take part.
- We need your help – contact us.

Together we can make a difference.