



# STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

June 2025

**Registered address:** Amber Fostering Ltd,  
Suite 310, Olympic House, 28-42 Clements House,  
Ilford, IG1 1BA

Ofsted registered URN: 2559288 & Company Number: 11858544



# CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Legislative basis of the document: | 4 |
| Dissemination of the document      | 5 |
| Our vision                         | 5 |
| Principle values                   | 6 |
| Aims and objectives                | 7 |
| Equality and Diversity             | 9 |
| Status and constitution            | 9 |

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Director, RI & ADM: Imran Ilyasi | 10 |
| Director – Shazma Ilyasi         | 11 |
| Registered manager: Claire Scott | 11 |
| Organizational Structure         | 12 |

## PLACEMENT TYPES

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Emergency placements           | 13 |
| Short-term placements          | 13 |
| Long-term/permanent placements | 13 |
| Sibling placements             | 13 |
| Bridging placements            | 13 |
| Parent and child placements    | 14 |
| Remand scheme placements       | 14 |
| Solo placements                | 14 |
| Unaccompanied children         | 14 |

## RECRUITING AND ASSESSING FOSTER CARERS



|   |    |
|---|----|
| Foster carers support groups and peer support | 21 |
| Social events                                 | 22 |
| Record keeping                                | 22 |
| Annual review                                 | 23 |
| Training                                      | 23 |
| Policies and procedures                       | 23 |
| Respite                                       | 23 |
| Foster Talk membership                        | 23 |
| Financial support                             | 24 |
| Termination of Approval                       | 24 |

## **SERVICE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Feedback                                  | 25 |
| Complaints and allegations investigations | 25 |
| External inspection                       | 25 |



# Introduction

Amber Fostering is an Independent Fostering Agency, operating in England. This document outlines the purpose of the organization, its aims and objectives and the services and facilities Amber Fostering provides. A full list of our current Policies and Procedures are available upon request.

## Legislative basis of the document:

This Statement of Purpose is underpinned by law and regulations, including:

- The Children Act 1989 (including Vol.4: Fostering Services)
- The Care Standards Act 2000
- The Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000
- The Children Act 2004
- The Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Fostering Services Regulations England 2011
- The National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services 2011
- Care Planning, Case Review and Fostering Services Regulations 2013
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018



# Dissemination of the document

A copy of the statement of purpose is made available and will be shared with the following:

- Any person working for the purpose of the fostering service, such as the placing local authority and educational establishments
- Any child placed with the foster parents by Amber Fostering
- The parent or guardian of any such child
- Ofsted
- Foster carers and prospective foster carers
- The agency's staff
- The general public (upon request)

Furthermore, a copy of the statement of purpose will be available on our website. This document will be kept 'live' and revisited annually, or earlier if there are changes within the organization.

This statement of purpose is intended to be child-friendly in that the content is suitable to be explained to children (by an appropriate adult): It is expected that foster carers and social workers will support children to understand this document. Children and young people will also be provided with age-appropriate children's guides, to further aid their understanding. This document has been endorsed by all of the senior managers, including the Directors, the Responsible Individual and the Registered Manager.

## Our vision

To provide well managed and high-quality foster care placements to children and young people in a fostering setting.

Amber Fostering is a child-focused organisation, offering placements to children and young people between the ages of 0 to 18, who are looked after by local authorities.

Amber Fostering provides opportunities to children and young people from all different backgrounds to achieve their full potential and to live fulfilling lives. We strive to work closely with children and young people, parents, carers and the multi-agency 'team around the child' to build children's confidence, self-esteem and prepare them for their life ahead. Children and young people coming into care have suffered a great deal of trauma and adversity in their early lives; we recognize this when offering support to them and we strive to support them with their journey into adulthood.



# Principle values

The core values for Amber Fostering include:

**Safety First** -The child's welfare, safety and needs are at the center of their care.

**Holistic care for children** - We ensure that all children and young people placed with the agency are supported in all areas of their development, including their physical health, mental/emotional health, education and preparation for adulthood.

**Inclusion** - Involve fostered and birth children in how our service is run.

**Child centered** - in which a young person's dignity and individuality is celebrated and developed.

**Fun** - Coming into care is daunting. We want to ensure that children and young people are given opportunities to have fun.

**Passionate** - We have a passion to achieve the best outcomes for children.

**Working in partnership with the 'team around the child'.**



# Aims and objectives

The primary aim of our service is to meet the needs of children, young people or parent and child/ren who are temporarily or permanently separated from their families. We provide a high level of support, encouragement, safe caring and security for children, by providing quality care through fostering families.

The objectives of Amber Fostering include:

- Safeguard and promote the welfare of each child as paramount, protecting them from harm and abuse.
- Operate a child-centered approach, and this is promoted throughout the organization.
- Monitor the placements of children and young people to ensure that their needs are being met.
- To promote the educational achievements of young people.
- To support and understand children and young people, who's early life experiences has contributed to them displaying Problematic Sexual Behavior.
- To promote a healthy lifestyle and ensure that every child's emotional and physical health needs are met.
- To enable and support children with disabilities to reach their full potential.
- Provide a range of placements for children and young people, in need of short term, long term or permanent care with a view to providing the best possible care.
- To carry out careful matchmaking to ensure the children and young people receive quality care.
- Promote contact with the birth family & significant others during a placement.
- Protect and promote children and young people's rights and help them to take on appropriate responsibilities.
- To regularly consult with children in care so as to monitor their wishes, feelings and make improvements, amendments and changes within the service provision where appropriate.
- To ensure children are living in foster homes which are therapeutic in approach.
- Ensure that information is made available to young people, informing them of their rights.
- Provide good quality foster care placements for children and young people and this can only be achieved in an organization committed to valuing diversity.
- Recruit, assess, prepare, train and approve foster carers from diverse backgrounds.
- Help foster carers to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people.

- Provide practical and professional support and training to foster carers so that they can undertake their responsibilities effectively.
- Treat foster carers with openness, fairness, and respect as a member of the team and support them in making reasonable and appropriate decisions around a child.
- To provide a 24-hour support to foster carers, where foster carers can have access to a qualified social worker at all times.
- Work effectively in collaboration and partnership with other agencies and local authorities.
- To assist the Local Authorities in improving the wellbeing of children in every aspect of their lives.
- Strive to improve our service, based on recommendations from OFSTED, foster carer and their birth children, local authorities and foster children.





# Equality and Diversity

We are totally committed to the principles of equal opportunity in employment and services. No individual, employee, foster carer or child will be disadvantaged as a consequence of their race, gender, disability, sexuality or any other discriminatory reason.

The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society.

We ensure our services, recruitment and general business does not discriminate on any grounds of:

Age

Disability

Gender

Gender reassignment

Pregnancy and maternity

Race and ethnicity

Religion and belief (or non-belief)

Sexual orientation

All staff and foster carers are aware of and understand the agency's commitment to equality of opportunity and their responsibilities in relation to this.

Foster carer training, both pre and post-approval encourages a commitment to respecting an individuals ethnic, religious, cultural and linguistic background of children and young people who are looked after through our agency.

## Status and constitution

Amber Fostering is registered company (with Companies House, company number 11858544) and is registered by Ofsted (URN: 2559288).



# Organisational structure

As we grow and develop, we will ensure that we will take on board the best motivated professionals and recruit qualified Social Work England, registered and experienced social workers. All new staff are subject to the company's probation policy; this includes the successful completion of induction training. All staff will also receive regular supervision. Every year annual appraisals take place, these will include the views and of the children and young people. The appraisals will further evaluate and contribute to goal setting for the future personal development of each staff member. All staff will be provided with signed copies of their supervision and annual appraisal.

## Founder, Director & Responsible Individual: Imran Ilyasi



My name is Imran Ilyasi, and I am proud to be the founder, director, and responsible individual of Amber Fostering Ltd, a leading independent fostering agency dedicated to providing exceptional care and support for children in need. With over 17 years of experience in the field of social work and a profound commitment to fostering, I have dedicated my career to advocating for vulnerable children and families.

Throughout my professional journey, I have had the privilege of working with various Independent Fostering Agencies in multiple capacities, including supervising social worker, senior practitioner, independent assessor, registered manager, and now, as an RI & ADM. Each role has enriched my understanding of the complexities of fostering and reinforced my passion for creating positive outcomes for children and their foster families.

As an experienced foster carer for over 15 years, I bring a unique perspective to my work. My firsthand experience in fostering has not only deepened my empathy and understanding of the challenges faced by both children and foster families but has also equipped me with practical insights that inform the policies and practices at Amber Fostering. I believe that my dual role as both a practitioner and a carer allow me to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world application, ensuring that our agency is responsive to the needs of those we serve.

At Amber Fostering, I play an active role in the day-to-day operations of the organization, working closely with our dedicated team to ensure the smooth running of our services.

My vision for Amber Fostering is to be a beacon of hope for children and families, where every child is seen, heard, and given the opportunity to thrive.



## Director: Shazma Ilyasi

My name is Shazma Ilyasi, and I am honored to serve as one of the directors at Amber Fostering Ltd. In this role, I work closely with our dedicated team to provide unwavering support to both our staff and foster carers. My commitment to fostering excellence is deeply rooted in my personal experiences and professional journey, which have shaped my understanding of the unique challenges and rewards that come with fostering.

With over 15 years of experience as a foster carer, I have developed a profound appreciation for the complexities of fostering. This first-hand experience allows me to connect with our foster carers on a personal level, offering empathy, understanding, and practical guidance as they navigate their own journeys. I believe that fostering is not just a profession; it is a calling that requires compassion, resilience, and a collaborative spirit. My goal is to ensure that our foster carers feel valued, supported, and empowered to create safe and nurturing environments for the children in their care.

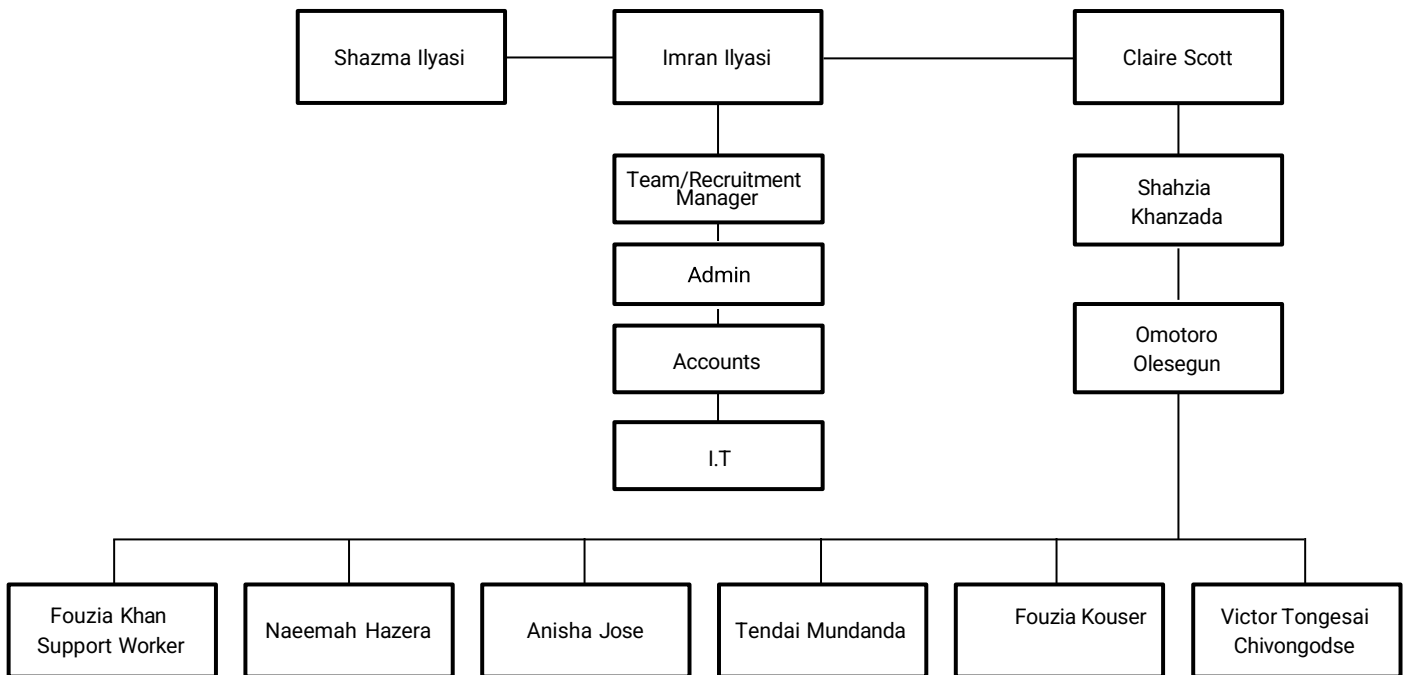


## Registered manager: Claire Scott

My name is Claire Scott. I have worked in social care for over 14 years, including residential parenting assessment unit, independent fostering providers, Local Authority and Children & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS). I have years of experience in leadership and management before joining Amber Fostering. I am a clinical social worker specializing in Trauma.



# Organisational Structure



All social workers and their managers are professionally qualified and registered with Social Work England. All staff receive regular supervision as well as access to regular trainings and continued professional development.

Amber Fostering ensure all staff are inspiring people who will support all foster carers. They are expected to help achieve the best outcomes for foster carers and young people as a top priority, using their creativity, curiosity and openminded approach.

# Placement Types

Amber Fostering offers a range of family placements; working with foster carers, social workers and others to give children and young people the best possible care so the children/young people can go on to lead successful happy adult lives. Amber Fostering meets the needs of children and young people who are temporarily or permanently separated from their families. Every child we care for is valued, and by integrating services through partnership working we can make a real difference to a child or young person's life.

We offer the following placements:

## Emergency placements

This is a placement that is made within 24 hours of it being requested, and where there has been no prior plan. Children requiring emergency placements will require care for around 72-hours. It is the nature of emergencies that they can occur at any time, with limited information about the child/ren and the circumstances of the placement.

## Short-term placements

Children who require short term care are expected to remain in foster care for a few days up to a few months or longer. The essential feature is that it is temporary and that permanent plans will be made for the child or young person to either return to their birth family, be adopted, or remain in care for the long term.

## Long-term/permanent placements

Children needing long term or permanent care will remain with the fostering family until they are adults, or longer. These children are unable to return to their birth families and cannot be adopted.

## Sibling placements

Whenever possible and when required to do so, Amber Fostering will attempt to place siblings within the same fostering home because this is usually in the best interests of the children/young people. If siblings are placed separately, Amber Fostering will facilitate contact between siblings unless it opposes a risk to the child/ren or is advised otherwise.

## Bridging placements

Bridging placements are short-term, flexible placements, focussing on ensuring the most sensitive transition for the child into and from different placements: for example, the child may be transitioning from a children's home into semi-independent care or back to their birth family.

## Parent and child placements

This type of placement is designed for young individuals who have become parents at a young age, as well as adult mothers facing challenges such as mental health issues or substance misuse. These placements provide essential support and guidance to help them care for their children effectively.

Foster carers in this program require specialized training, skills, and experience to manage the unique needs of teenage parents or adults with mental health challenges, along with their babies. Amber Fostering offers specialized training to equip carers with the necessary tools to provide effective support in these situations.

## Remand scheme placements

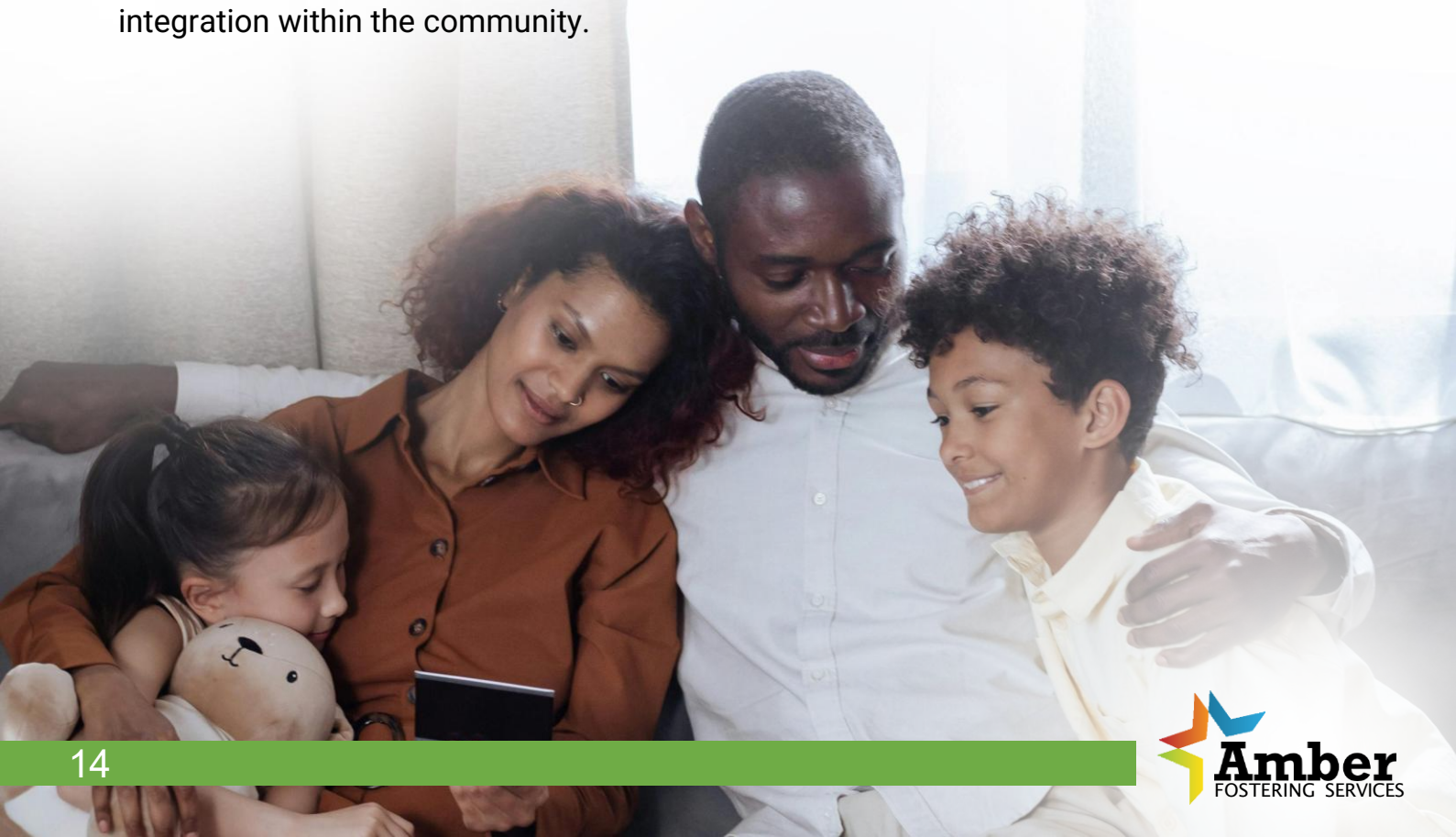
These carers provide time limited placements to young people who are remanded to the local authority by the courts. This means that these young people can be cared for in a family whilst they wait for decisions to be made by the court process. Sometimes the court places restrictions on the young person while they are on remand, such as being placed into foster carer and having a curfew.

## Solo placements

Solo placements are provided where, because of the child's considerable needs, the carer is required to offer a high level of supervision and support, which would preclude the placement of another foster child.

## Unaccompanied children

Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children need specialist support with their immigration status, cultural needs/adaptation, religious needs/adaptation, language needs, and integration within the community.





# Recruiting and Assessing Foster Carers

Applications to become a foster carer are welcome from people regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, marital status, race, religion, disability, ethnicity or culture. Applicants must be at least 21 years old; there is no upper age limit but prospective carers must be healthy and active enough to meet the demands of caring for children. It is essential that the prospective carer has at least one spare bedroom. Amber Fostering will assess the suitability of individuals and families to perform the task of caring for 'looked after' children in their own homes, we aim to complete the process within four to six months.

The assessment process follows the following stages:

## Initial inquiry

Making an initial enquiry is easy and this can be done by email or by phone. One of our helpful staff will ask a series of questions aimed at helping the agency and the applicant to consider if fostering is right for the applicant. If the application progresses, an information pack would be sent to the applicant and a home visit is arranged.

## Initial home visit

During the home visit, Amber Fostering staff will visit the applicant at their home to discuss fostering in more detail and answer any additional questions they have. A brief assessment will be completed with the applicant and their partner (if applicable). The assessment includes discussions about the applicant's motivation, understanding, childcare experience and ability to meet the needs of Children Looked After. The staff member will make a recommendation to the fostering team manager and a decision will be made whether we progress to the assessment stage, if there is additional work/learning that needs to take place prior to this, or if perhaps the assessment can't progress any further.

## Skills-to-foster preparation training

All prospective foster carers will be invited to attend a 'Skills to Foster' training course which runs prior to them being approved as foster carers. The purpose of this course is two-fold: firstly, it gives the applicants opportunity to find out if fostering is right for them; secondly, it explores why children come into care, the kinds of behavior that they may be faced with as a carer and suggestions as how to deal with such behavior.

Attendance at the course forms part of the assessment process, and all applicants are required to attend. Depending on when the training course starts, they may be invited to attend the course before the assessment begins or during the assessment.

# Stage 1 of the assessment process: Statutory checks and references

The checks and references carried out during the assessment include:

- ID checks: A copy of the applicant's birth certificate and passport will be required
- Proof of right to work
- The applicant's National Insurance Number and/or visa will be checked
- Health and safety checks: Driving licence(s), insurance and MOT(s) will be viewed. Home buildings and contents insurance will be checked, and a gas safety certificate will be required. A home health and safety assessment will also be completed. If the home has a chimney, a chimney sweep certificate will also be required
- Marriage and/or divorce certificates will be checked
- Pet assessments will be carried out. Homes with 'dangerous dogs' will not be accepted for fostering
- Education references will be carried out for all children in the home who are attending statutory education
- Health visitor reference(s) will be requested if the fostering home has very young children
- GP/health checks will be carried out for each applicant. If any issues are raised, the agency medical advisor will be asked to review the GP report
- DBS checks will be carried out for all residents of the home who are 18 or over. International checks will be carried out if the applicant has spent more than 3 months at one time in another country
- References will be requested from the current employer (and previous employer if the current employment is less than 3 months)
- References will be requested for all employment with children and/or vulnerable people.
- 2 family references will be requested for each applicant
- 2 personal (friends) references will be requested for each applicant: The friendships are expected to be longstanding and should know the applicant and (if appropriate) their children well
- References will be requested from any significant ex-partners (except where there has been domestic violence in the previous relationship)
- If the applicant has previously been a foster carer, adopter or childminder, the relevant reference(s) will be requested
- Local authority checks will be requested, covering the past 3 years and all addresses in which children have been cared for
- Where applicable, a landlord reference will be requested
- 3 months bank statements will be required and a financial assessment will be completed
- If the home has firearms (e.g. farmers), a firearms assessment will be completed
- Social media and search engine checks

Applicants should note that if any of these checks or references are not passed, the application will be reviewed by senior management and the assessment may be terminated. If the application is terminated due to a failed stage 1 check, there is no recourse for the applicant to appeal.

The applicant will be notified of the outcome of stage 1 checks within 10 days of the final check being received. The application will not be taken to panel until all stage 1 checks are completed.





## Stage 2 of the assessment process: Social work interviews

Stage 2 of the assessment comprises of a minimum of 6 interviews with applicants and household members. The assessment is completed by a qualified assessing social worker, with strong oversight by their line manager.

Stage 2 discussions will cover: childhood; adolescence; adult life; previous relationships; family relationships; personalities and personal/family relationships; emotional and mental health; working effectively with others; identity/diversity; motivation and timing of application; anticipated impact of fostering; preparation, training and expectations; future training and developments; understanding of caring for children; and suitability for different placement types.

If concerns are raised during stage 2 discussions, the concerns will be discussed by the assessing social worker with the applicants and the registered manager. If, following these discussions, it is decided that the application can't progress, the applicant(s) will be notified in writing and a 'brief report' will be produced for panel.

If the applicant(s) disagree with the decision to halt the assessment during stage 2, applicants can appeal the decision via the Independent Reviewing Mechanism (IRM). Information about the IRM can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/independent-review-mechanism/about/complaints-procedure>

## The fostering panel and approval

Assessments which reach stage 2 are presented at panel, either at the point of approval, or earlier if the assessment is terminated early. The fostering panel is a group of professionals, most of whom are independent of the service. The panel will make a recommendation to the agency decision-maker about the quality of the assessment and about the social worker's recommendation. The agency decision-maker considers the panel recommendations and make the final decision.

Following approval, foster carers will be provided with a foster carer's handbook, where they will be able to find more information about further support and training.

Every foster carer is also required to sign two Foster Care Agreements: The first is a general agreement that outlines the responsibilities, requirements and expectations between the foster carer and Amber Fostering; the second is a financial agreement which is completed each time a placement is made.

# Matching children to foster homes

At Amber Fostering, the placement of all children/young people is done when it is considered that a fostering family would be able to meet the needs of the child/young person. We will never pressurize any of our carers into looking after a child. We will never put foster carers forward for a particular child without having discussed this with them first and then us both agreeing that they and their family are well suited to support the child/ren. All placements will be made and monitored in accordance with the Fostering Services Regulations (2011), the Fostering National Minimum Standards (2011) and other childcare regulations and guidance.

Wherever possible, pre-placement planning is undertaken, including introductions between foster carers and the child(ren). We help young people settle into new placements by providing them with 16 information about their foster carers. We will make sure foster carers have all the information that is available to us, in order to care safely for the child/young person and keep themselves and members of the fostering family safe. We will provide this information in writing prior to placement unless the placement is made in an emergency so it is not feasible to do so; in this case we will provide the information within five working days. Other than some siblings (where it is in their benefit to share bedrooms), all children will be provided with their own bedroom, furnished to a good standard with space to complete homework and store their clothes and personal items.



# Support for Foster Carers

Amber Fostering offers a comprehensive fostering support package to ensure that foster carers are able to provide the best possible support to the children who come to live with them. The following support is available:

## Supporting children

Providing excellent care for vulnerable children is at the core of all the work we do. Foster carers are expected to go through this document and the children's guides with the children who are placed with them. Foster carers should also act as advocates for the children by helping the children to express their views and needs. Amber Fostering and the foster carers will work creatively and diligently to ensure that all children in our care are given the best opportunities and experiences that we are able to give them. It is integral to this support that the children's views, wishes and feelings are heard and respected throughout the organisation. Supervising social workers, managers and outreach workers will also regularly seek children's views through their visits and interactions with them.

Whenever there are changes within the service that affect the children the carers share the information and ask the children how they feel about that change and where possible any suggestions or requests will be acted upon.

We formally consult with carers and children at least once a year using written questionnaires. This data is used to form the foundations of the service plan to ensure we are including the children's and carers views in overall service provision.

## Educational Support

Carers and their supervising social workers build up close working relationships with their local schools to ensure that children who live with our carers receive the support needed to meet their own potential. We recognize that children who are in care are often disadvantaged in their education attainment. Amber Fostering does its best to ensure all foster children have the chance to receive educational services.

- We support for children and young people in school/further education.
- Personal education plans, pathway plans, annual reviews and strategy meetings for children and young people.
- We acknowledge achievement and attainment e.g. young people achieving 100% term time attendance.
- Our support workers help foster carers with school runs if they are struggling.



# Children's rights

Amber Fostering promotes children's rights and helps children to understand what they are. Details of this are contained within the Children's Guide and discussed in day-to-day conversations. The guide contains contact information and guidance on their rights, advocacy services and the Children's 18 Rights Commission. All children are reminded that they have a right to gain access to an independent visitor via their placing authority and we encourage children to make best use of this.

## Social work supervision

Every foster carer will be supported by a qualified social worker and/or support worker. The support will be offered according to the needs of the fostering family, but as a minimum there are weekly welfare calls, monthly supervision sessions and occasional unannounced home visits. Additional support can be negotiated as required, such as input from management, additional training, increased visits, travel expenses and/or extra financial support. The primary source of support for foster carers is their supervising social worker; however, the children's social worker will also offer some level of support.

## Out of hours support

Amber Fostering provides out-of-hour support to all its foster carers. It is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and is staffed by Amber fostering staff, who have access to the support of a senior manager when it is needed. Amber fostering OOH number is 03001240969.

## Regular Home Visits

The allocated Supervising Social Worker visits the fostering home regularly. The frequency of the home visits is needed and depends on the requirements of the foster carer and the child or young person in placement.

## Foster carers support groups and peer support

Foster carers are encouraged to get to know each other, especially when new foster carers would benefit from the support provided by more experienced foster carers. Foster carers become acquainted via training and informal communication between each other. Amber Fostering hosts monthly support groups accessible for all foster carers. Support groups take place both online and in person to ensure the inclusion of all foster carers. Amber Fostering also hosts monthly enhanced support groups for the carers who may need extra support with the foster children in their care.

## Social events

We recognize that taking care of other people's children is a serious business and can be challenging and at times stressful. We believe that it is important to come together informally to support our carers and de-stress. We will organize regular social events where carers and children can have fun.

## Record keeping

Record keeping is an essential part of the fostering task. The records should be written in a child-friendly way so that any children placed in the home can refer to the foster carer records if they wish to. The records are also used by the agency to maintain an oversight of the placement. In some circumstances the foster carer records are referred to if an allegation has been made.

As a default, foster carers are expected to write daily records at the start of a new placement. The frequency of recording may then reduce over time, with the agreement of the children's social worker and the supervising social worker.



# Annual review

All foster carers have an annual review to ensure that they are being provided with the best support possible, and also to ensure that they continue to be suitable to hold registration and approval as foster carers. The review evaluates the foster carer's performance over the preceding year. Amber Fostering also obtains the views of the child or young person in placement, their parents or the person with parental responsibility (whenever it is possible to do so), and their social worker. The first review is considered by our fostering panel and subsequent reviews are processed internally. However, if there is a significant change in the foster carer's circumstances, or following an allegation, the review may be referred to panel for consideration.

# Training

A comprehensive training program is provided to ensure that staff and foster carers are trained in the skills required to provide high quality care and meet the needs of placed young people. Foster carers are expected to complete 'Training, support and development standards' within the first year of approval.

# Policies and procedures

Supervising social workers will support foster carers to become well acquainted with all the agency policies and procedures. Foster carers will be sent to the agency handbook; The handbook contains information, advice, and procedures on various aspects of the fostering task. All policies and procedures are provided to foster carers and are available upon request to partnership services.

# Respite

Foster Carer can take regular breaks, where other carers look after the foster child. This can be for a weekend or up to a couple of weeks. We encourage all foster carers to identify support within their own networks, including people who may be able to care for the child/ren for short periods of time. All respite carers undergo basic checks (DBS, local authority and ID) and a short assessment is completed to explore their suitability for the task.

# Foster Talk

All our foster carers have automatic membership to Foster Talk. Membership includes independent advice and support from their legal team and solicitors if/when it is required (for example, if an allegation is made by a child living with the family).

- 24 hr legal helpline and Legal Representation at police interview under caution
- Social Work Support Helpline
- Counselling/Support Helpline



- Tax/Accountancy/Benefits Helpline
- Personal Finances Helpline (mortgages & retirement planning)
- Access to online discounts on lifestyle products and services
- Medical Information Helpline
- Access to members area of Foster Talk website including online forums
- Foster Talk quarterly magazine
- Monthly E-Newsletter "You're not home alone"

## Financial support

All foster carers are given financial support to cover the additional costs for caring for children, and carers are also given financial support to cover their own costs. A breakdown of fees is available from Amber Fostering.

## Termination of Approval

A foster carer may at any point give notice in writing that they wish to resign from the role. The approval will be terminated with effect from 28 calendar days from which the written notice of resignation is received by Amber Fostering.

If a foster carer is no longer considered suitable for fostering, either through the review system or because of an incident or complaint which causes concern, the matter will be considered by the agency fostering panel. The panel can recommend the de-registration of carers. Carers will be invited to this meeting. The decision would be made by the Agency Decision Maker (ADM).

Foster carers who are not happy with the decision can appeal to The Independent Review Mechanism (IRM). IRM is a review process which prospective or existing foster carers can use when they do not agree with the qualifying determination given to them by their fostering service provider. Information about the IRM can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/independent-review-mechanism/about/complaints-procedure>





# Service Development and Improvement

## Feedback

Amber Fostering is grateful for any feedback (positive, negative and/or neutral). Feedback may be given to any member of staff directly or emailed to [info@amberfostering.co.uk](mailto:info@amberfostering.co.uk). If contact information is provided, we will respond to all feedback.

## Complaints and allegations investigations:

Amber Fostering ensures that allegations of abuse made by children against foster carers, or members of the foster carer's family or others are thoroughly investigated in an unbiased way.

The complaints policy and allegations policies are available upon request. The policy explains that all complaints will be logged, including how it was dealt with and by whom. It also includes information about addressing complaints made about the managers or the owner and external bodies where complaint can be heard.

If you wish to make a complaint, please contact the manager or the director of the fostering services, Imran Ilyasi on 03001240969, 07982686196 or email [i.ilyasi@amberfostering.co.uk](mailto:i.ilyasi@amberfostering.co.uk).

Or Claire Scott- Registered manager for Amber fostering at [Claire@amberfostering.co.uk](mailto:Claire@amberfostering.co.uk)

## External inspection

Every fostering provider, including Amber Fostering, is registered with and inspected by Ofsted. Inspection reports are available to view on the Ofsted website and Ofsted may be contacted at:

Ofsted  
Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD  
Tel: 0300 123 1231  
Email: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)

Child Line – 0800 1111  
NSPCC - 0808 800 5000 [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)



**Registered address:** Amber Fostering Ltd,  
Suite 310, Olympic House, 28-42 Clements  
House, Ilford, IG1 1BA

