

## Adoption support for adoptive families

Children adopted from care can have ongoing needs, and you and your child may benefit from support. The support you are entitled to is outlined here by First4Adoption in The Adoption Passport: a support guide for adopters.

Support services can be accessed by any adoptive families who live in Kingston or Richmond boroughs or any adoptive families who live outside of this area and adopted a child through Kingston or Richmond boroughs in the last three years.

Some of the support services are offered by Achieving for Children (AfC) alone while others are provided in conjunction with our partners in the South West London Adoption Consortium partners. (This includes the London boroughs Sutton, Kingston, Richmond and Merton).

## The support services AfC currently offers include:

- initial consultation, advice and information: this can be either on the telephone or in person, by appointment
- adoption support assessments: if your family needs further help or services, you are entitled to an assessment of your adoption support needs at any time until your child is 18
  - If the assessment finds that therapeutic services would help your family, we can apply to the national Adoption Support Fund (ASF) to help pay for these services
- adoption workshops: these sessions provide a chance to meet other adoptive parents, and there is usually a guest speaker
- **drop-in mornings and toddler groups**: a relaxed and informal support group for adoptive parents, held every four weeks in a comfortable and child friendly environment. These are held in Richmond and you can attend these with or without children
- **network group:** this is another informal support group, run by an adoptive parent for adoptive parents
- family days: we also hold an annual summer fun day, with refreshments, entertainment and activities for all the family
- monthly support groups for adoptive parents with children aged 0 to 18 years
- therapeutic parenting groups

To find out more about any of these services please contact the adoption duty worker on 020 8547 4620.

## **Related websites**

- The Post Adoption Centre
- After Adoption
- Adoption UK
- First4Adoption