



avanti fostering



Statement of Purpose 2023/2024



Introduction

Avanti Fostering was established in 2020 as an independent fostering agency. Our founder supports the vision that every child or young person deserves the opportunity to experience a loving family environment within a caring home, with support provided into adulthood. Therefore, in addition to providing long-term placements, we also work to provide short-term, emergency and respite fostering services.

Avanti Fostering's Statement of Purpose has been created to meet the requirements and comply with the following regulatory legislation and guidance. This is reviewed annually by the director and registered manager:

- The Fostering Service Regulations 2011, amended July 2013 and April 2014
- The National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services (2011)
- The Care Standards Act 2000
- The Care Planning, Placement & Case Review (England) Regulations 2010
- The Care Planning, Placement & Case Review and Fostering Services (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2013
- The Care Planning and Fostering (Miscellaneous Amendments) 2015
- The Children Act 1989
- The Children Act 1989 Guidance & Regulations Vol 2: Care Planning, Placement and Case Review 2010
- Delegation of Authority: Amendments to the Children Act 1989 Guidance & Regulations Vol 2: Care Planning, Placement and Case Review 2010 (July 2013)
- The Children Act 1989 Guidance & Regulations Vol 4: Fostering Services (2011)
- Assessment and Approval of Foster Carers: Amendment to the Children Act 1989 Guidance & Regulations Vol 4: Fostering Services (July 2013)
- The Children and Families Act 2014
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.



Our Aim









Ensuring that the children always remain at the core of what we do, Avanti Fostering has been created to provide children within the local services with the opportunity to have a sense of 'family'.

Aims of the services are to provide a secure and personalised service that is suited to the individual needs of each child. Focused on achieving the highest quality in foster care, we aim to deliver this service with the following competencies:

- Being transparent and honest to all parties.
- Ensuring the safety and security of the child is prioritised
- Providing education and training opportunities not only for the foster child but also their carer. Introduction of the Education Champion (who will also be able to provide information about apprenticeship schemes and training courses), but the Foster Parents will also support with this. We also provide material and reading books to the children.
- Being flexible to suit the needs of all parties.
- Always being a reliable and stable constant.
- Ensuring we remain up to date on all knowledge to confirm best practice is implemented.
- Being compliant with all statutory and regulatory compliance.



Through these competencies we have the following objectives:

-  To provide children with a safe and secure environment where they feel nurtured within a stimulating environment that facilitates them reaching their goals and fulfilling their potential.
-  To ensure that foster parents feel valued and respected and are included with clear and transparent communication on all relevant matters that pertain to their foster child.
-  To help foster siblings remain together or to ensure that contact is continued.
-  To have a holistic approach to care that is positive, inclusive and focused on core values.
-  To train foster parents and provide opportunities for them to develop their skills which will benefit the total quality of the service.
-  To consult children on the care and involve them where appropriate on matters relating to their care planning. The Supervising Social workers role is to meet with the FP and also see the child every 4-6 weeks.
-  Promote a diverse and varied foster carer base. We try to ensure that the diversity of children can be matched.
-  We facilitate the right type of home for older children, those with special needs or those from minority ethnic backgrounds.

We provide you with support and guidance throughout all the stages of becoming a foster parent.



The Structure of Avanti Fostering

Avanti Fostering operates as an independent fostering agency and we focus on children, young people and the foster parents that look after them.

We aim to provide foster parents with the tools and support that will enable them to ensure that the children and young people in their care can strive towards a happy future. We work in partnership with local authorities and the families of the children and young people that we are looking after. The Avanti Fostering Team consists of qualified and experienced individuals.

We employ a specialist and highly qualified team. The team are qualified and experienced in the roles that they hold. This is enhanced with the training that they receive at Avanti Fostering.

The Manager Stanley Chima has over 13 years of experience working with adults and children with learning disabilities. He has worked as a deputy manager and also has experience working in social work with single homeless children. Before working at Avanti Fostering, he worked at two other independent foster agencies (IFAs) as a student social worker and later as a qualified social worker.

After joining Avanti Fostering, he worked as a supervising social worker for 16 months before becoming a manager. Stanley is a dedicated and resilient professional, always focused on his job. He encourages his team to share ideas on how to meet the needs of the children in placement, and he maintains an open-door policy to ensure the maintenance of fostering requirements.



Professional Practice



We believe that no matter the length of time that a child is in care, every child should have the opportunity to be part of a family and therefore we offer the following services in addition to 'family for life' foster places:

- Sibling groups live with the same family
- Every child is placed in a suitable home
- We will provide a home for children or young adults that have complex needs
- We assess and help secure a home for young parents with babies
- Support for young people moving toward independence.



To ensure that foster children have a home that reflects their individuality we recruit a wide range of foster parents, which includes foster parents of ethnic minorities and those who can communicate in different languages.

Foster parents are all inducted and provided with details of local schools, health and recreational facilities. Children are encouraged to participate in their local community through participating in local clubs and activities to benefit their statutory education.

The foster parent will be provided with a personal education plan (PEP), supported at meetings with the school and encouraged to take a proactive role in helping the child reach their full potential.



Selection, Review and Support for Foster Parents

The recruitment of appropriate foster parents is a core factor in the success of the success of our children's achievements. We place substantial time and resource in ensuring that the right people are selected to provide foster children with a happy and positive experience.

Recruitment of foster parents follows a two-step process, whereby potential foster parents are vetted and checked before progressing to an assessment stage. To ensure that the right people are recruited into the service, they are assessed using the British Association for Adoption and Fostering Form F procedure and required to attend 'Journey to Foster' training.

Upon completion, the fostering panel will consider the recommendations of the fostering assessment, be informed to make their own recommendations before the agency decision maker proceeds to make their decision.

The aim is to complete this within an eight-month timescale. Once accepted as a foster parent a detailed handbook is issued, and a supervising social worker is assigned.



The majority of our foster par are recruited through a mix of direct and indirect advertising, in addition to word of mouth and personal referral to the service.



To support our foster parents, we offer 24/7 access to support services, including an out of hours telephone line. We provide ongoing support and supervision.

Foster parents are encouraged to participate in support groups and share experiences with other foster parents who are experiencing similar situations. Training sessions will also be provided and include information surrounding the following:

- Difficulty creating a bond or attachment.
- Safe caring and allegations.
- Contact issues.
- Challenging behaviour and how to manage it
- Substance abuse and drug awareness.
- De-escalation skills and dealing with difficult situations.
- Healthy eating and exercise.
- Understanding the referral process.
- Understanding the child's perspective.

We support
you every step
of the way!

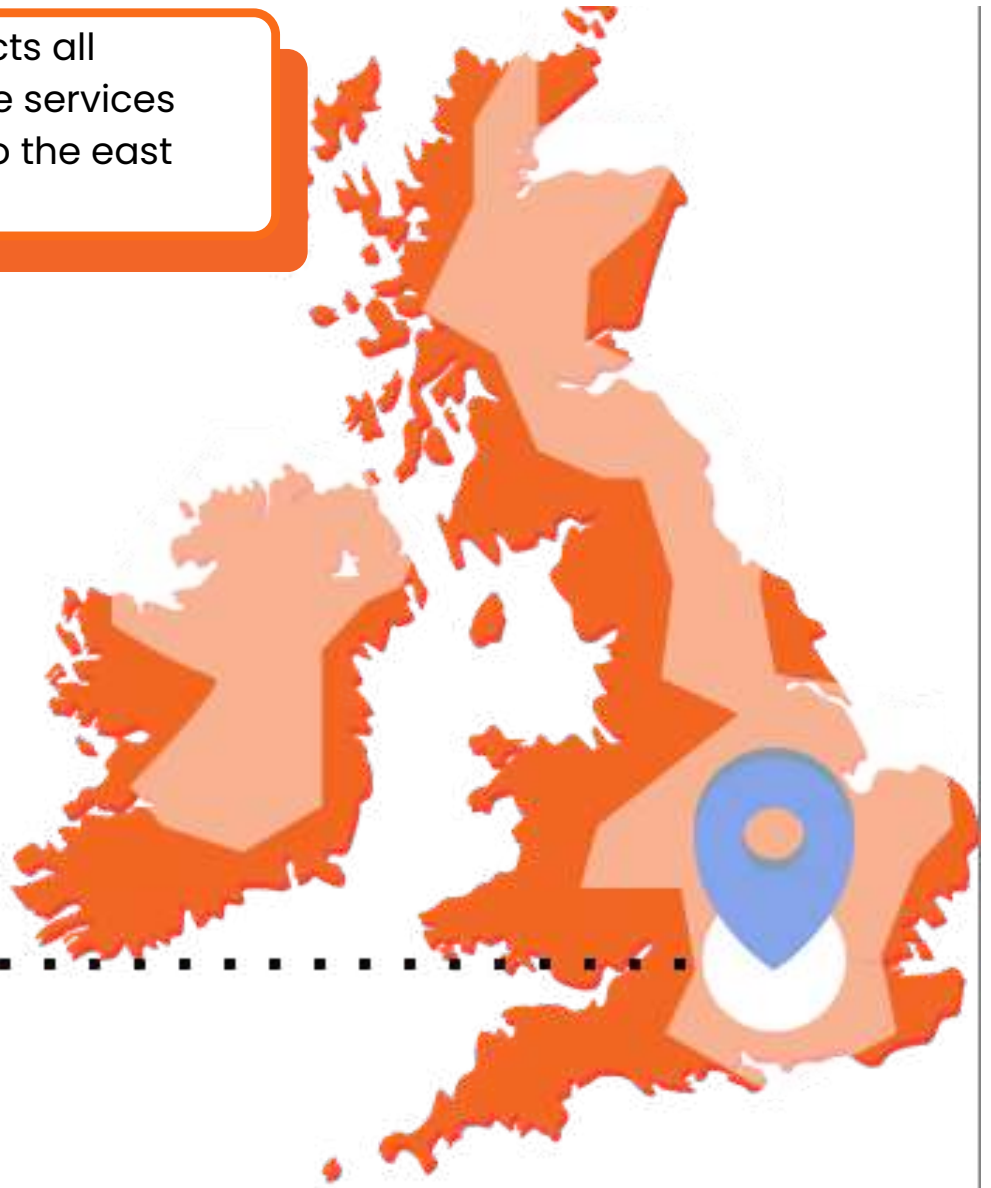
Safeguarding Children

Avanti Fostering ensures that children and young people:

- Feel safe.
- Are in good health.
- Know that they belong and have the sense of inclusion that they need.
- Move on with support at the right time.

LOCATIONS

The London office conducts all business pertaining to the services with hopes to expand into the east and West Midlands





Our Complaints Process

Stage 1 - Local Informal Resolution Complaints are raised and resolved directly between the parties concerned with managers being kept informed.

Stage 2- Avanti Fostering maintains separate processes for the purposes of complaints, allegations, commendations and suggestions. This information and processes are monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.

Suggestions

We welcome suggestions about our services.

Contact Us

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