

KINSHIP NEWS

Issue 8 – Spring 2016



A warm welcome to the Kinship Spring Newsletter

We welcome social workers Rachel Peacock and Cheryl Simpson to the Kinship Team. Rachel is based in Inverurie & works part time and Cheryl is full time & based in Peterhead providing maternity cover for Laura Quinn. We are delighted to announce that Laura is now a proud mummy having a little girl earlier this month, both Laura and her daughter are doing really well.

The Kinship Team is currently supporting 171 children in 124 Kinship Care placements across Aberdeenshire –

68% in North, 20% in Central and 12% in South Aberdeenshire.

Support for Kinship Carers

Across Scotland there are many children who may live with family and friends at some point during their childhoods. This may be due to parental imprisonment, parental drug and alcohol problems, parental mental health issues, bereavement, parental absence, neglect and abuse. During these times, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings and others can provide the love, nurture and stability that children need. Providing the child is safe, this is often a private family arrangement i.e. there is no legal involvement of the state. This may be for a short period of time. For some families, it may become a more permanent arrangement as the child cannot return to the care of their birth parent.

For children living with kin on a private family arrangement where there is no court order and/or statutory involvement of the local authority, this is often referred to as an informal Kinship care arrangement. Children who are Looked After in Kinship are subject to a statutory legislation with a plan and when they do not live with their birth parents. This is often referred to as a “formal” Kinship care arrangement

The Kinship Care (Scotland) Order 2016 comes into force on 1 April 2016 and provides a route for legal permanence for a child/ren. From April 2016, these will apply where Residence Orders have been made by the courts under Section 11 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, and where the qualifying person is a relative of the child or a friend of a relative of the child (this does not include birth parents). This means that the courts will have decided that the child will be living with a kinship carer on a permanent basis. This order will set out the relevant parental rights and responsibilities assigned to a kinship carer. Kinship Care Orders continue until a young person’s 16th birthday.

If you are applying for or considering applying for a Kinship Care Order and want further information, then please contact your local area Kinship Worker, contact us by email:

kinshipcare@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

or visit our Kinship page on the Aberdeenshire Council website:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/children-and-families/kinship-care/>

Kinship Allowances & Support for Kinship Carers

The Scottish Government have increased funding for parity payment of Kinship Care Allowances for eligible Kinship Carers. This does not apply to all Kinship carers and applies to all approved Kinship carers who have completed a Kinship Assessment and been formally approved as Kinship Carer for a “Looked After” child/ren. It also applies to some informal Kinship carers where the child is not “Looked After” but is subject to a Section 11 Order – to be known as a Kinship Care Order from 1 April 2016 – and the child/ren was previously “Looked After” on a legal order.

The Kinship Finance Annual Review letters have been issued and any change in entitlement will be calculated through the review process.

If you have any queries about Kinship Allowances, then please contact your local area Kinship Worker, email kinshipcare@aberdeenshire.gov.uk, visit our Kinship page on the Aberdeenshire Council website or contact your local Citizens Advice Office.

Scottish Government have also provided additional funding to Children 1st to provide emotional support and training opportunities. Their national Kinship Care Service offers a confidential telephone support and email service 365 days a year

Call – **0800 0282233** or email: parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk

Citizens Advice Scotland has also received extra funding to run their confidential Kinship Care Advice & Information Service which provides benefits advice and assistance with legal & financial matters. This is also open all year- **0808 8000006**

Alternatively you can contact your local CAB office as below

CITIZENS ADVICE CONTACTS

Aberdeen 41 Union Street Aberdeen, AB11 5BN	0808 800 9060 www.aberdeencab.org.uk	Mon – Fri 9:15-16:45 9:30-15:00 (drop in)
Kincardine & Mearns 9 Cameron Street Stonehaven AB39 2BL	01569 766578 bureau@kamcab.casonline.org.uk	Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9:30-12:00 (Drop in) Wednesday app only 16:30 -19:00
South West Aberdeenshire Westhill Shopping Centre Westhill, AB32 6RL	01224 747714 enquiries@westhillcab.casonline.org.uk	Tues/Wed 10am 3pm Thursday 10am 1pm Friday 1pm 4pm
Turriff & District Masonic Building Gladstone Terrace, Turriff, AB53 4AT	01888 562495 advice@turriffcab.casonline.org.uk	Monday 9:30 -15:30 Tuesday 9:30-19:00 Wednesday 9:30 -15:30 Thursday 9:30-15:30 Friday 09:30-12:30
Banff & Buchan Townhouse Broad Street Peterhead, AB42 1BY	01779 471515 bureau@banffcab.cabnet.org.uk	Monday – Friday 10:00 -14:00

Kinship Carers Forum

All Kinship carers are invited to our next forum on

Tuesday 10th of May 2016 at Portlethen Family Resource Centre from 10am – 12

Matthew Slavin from Children 1st and Christine Oji from Citizens Advice Bureau will be attending, they will be providing a short presentation and will be available for any questions you may have. Light refreshments will be provided.

GIRFEC Website



Getting it Right for Every Child website was launched last year. The website provides information in one place for carers, parents, young people and staff, where they can access relevant information so they can be informed about GIRFEC.

<http://www.girfec-aberdeenshire.org/>

Early Learning and Childcare for Eligible 2 year olds

Our team continue to work with the Early Years Education team to get free, extended Learning & Childcare for 2 year olds in Kinship Care. There are currently 17 x 2 year old children in Kinship & Foster Care who are accessing free nursery places across Aberdeenshire. Check out www.scottishfamilies.gov.uk or contact your local Kinship Worker for more information.



Dolly Parton - Imagination Library



We are delighted to announce that the Scottish Government has extended funding for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library for another year. Looked after children aged from 0-5 years old receive one free book delivered each month.

Season Tickets

Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust gifted season tickets for Pittodrie home games so kinship carers, foster carers and residential workers could take young people to a football match. If you would be interested in attending please contact Sandra McGuigan or Karoline McCallum.





AC Education online training programmes are highly flexible, you may complete e-learning courses from the comfort of your own home, and all you need is an email address and access to a computer. There is a vast selection of courses available with a few examples shown below.

<p>Kinship Care</p> <p>Children who need looking after often benefit from kinship care. However, there are special challenges in looking after related children. This course gives kinship carers and those who support them a way to understand those challenges, and provides practical guidance on managing the difficult feelings and behaviour that often go with kinship care.</p>	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand key issues in looking after children related to them - Know how to help children in kinship care to recover from trauma - Understand the need to care for those who care for the children <p>Learning Hours 10</p>
<p>Life Story Work</p> <p>The overall goal of Life Story Work is to help people to piece together a complete narrative of their lives. This includes their life history and information about relatives, friends, carers, places lived and key life events as well as personal achievements. Life Story Work may also help people to plan for their future as a result of understanding their past and the effect that it has had on them.</p>	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand the definition of, and theory supporting Life Story Work - Understand the potential benefits of Life Story Work - Know how to use a range of approaches to Life Story Work - Be able to assess which children will benefit from Life Story Work and which would benefit from other types of intervention - Be able to use Life Story Work in adult social care contexts <p>Learning Hours 10</p>
<p>Attachment and Loss</p> <p>Everyone in the children’s workforce needs to understand attachment and the traumatic impact of abuse, separation and loss. This course enables learners to gain this necessary knowledge, and also describes appropriate interventions to assist children and young people to recover. It emphasises the importance of teamwork in dealing with childhood trauma.</p>	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand the attachment process - Know how to promote positive attachment relationships - Know about the impact of trauma, separation and loss on child development - Understand how intervention can help children and young people who have been traumatised by early life experiences <p>Learning Hours 20</p>

Please contact a member of the Kinship Team to register your interest.

Summer Fun

The sun shone on our Kinship Family Fun Day in August 2015 at Aden Country Park. Lots of families came to enjoy the assault course bouncy castle before we separated into teams to play rounders. Adults and kids joined forces to win races and prizes. We're not sure who was the most competitive, children or adults! But great fun was had by all.

Several animals appeared by way of the creative face painting activity which added to the fun! Everyone enjoyed a traditional picnic lunch before embarking on the nature scavenger hunt, looking for various natural and man-made items. The fun day was a fantastic opportunity for children, carers, parents and staff to get together and let their hair down!



This summer the Aberdeenshire Kinship Team is organising another Family Funday after last year's successful event.

PLEASE CONTACT KAROLINE TO RESERVE YOUR PLACES

&

PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY!

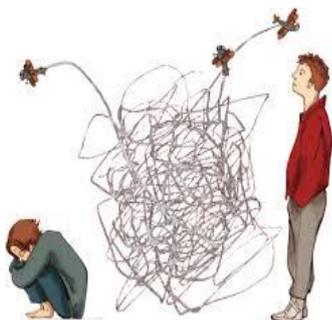
Kinship Family Fun Day

Tuesday 26th July 2016

Aden Country Park, Mintlaw AB42 5FQ

SCCR

Scottish Centre for
Conflict Resolution



FREE Family Conflict Resolution Awareness for Kinship Care Families

The SCCR delivers this half-day training to provide some understanding around conflict in a family: exploring what conflict is, reviewing relationships, identifying potential triggers and 'silly wee things', reflecting on growing up, and looking at how we can respond to situations to find a resolution. The course is short, simple, informative and interactive allowing you to share experiences and discuss related issues with others.

Book your place on this event:

When: tbc September 2016

What time: 10am until 2pm

Where: tbc

Contact: Sandra McGuigan on 01224 666200 or
email: kinshipcare@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Kinship Care Events Calendar 2016		
Tuesday 5 th April	Children's Spring Activity	Portlethen Family Centre
TBC	Support group	Portlethen Family Centre
Thursday 10 th May	Kinship Forum	Portlethen Family Centre
Thursday 2 nd June	North Forum	MACBI Centre, Mintlaw
Tuesday 26 th July	Family Summer Fun Day	Aden Park, Mintlaw
TBC	Conflict Resolution Workshop	
Wednesday 14 th Sept	North Forum	Turriff Family Centre
Tuesday 11 th October	Children's Autumn Activity	Portlethen Family Centre
Tuesday 22 nd November	Kinship Forum	Inverurie Family Centre
For further information regarding these events please contact either Karoline McCallum 01771 638240 or Sandra McGuigan 01224 666226		

Support Groups

K4K (Kinship for Kids)

01346 513834 (K4K)

k4kids1@gmail.com

1st & 3rd Friday of each month

1-12 Osborne House, 22Duthie Place, Fraserburgh, AB43 8WX

Heart of Kinship

07708 666001

every Tuesday 10am-12noon,

Community Room 1, Leisure Centre, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB24 1EP

Grandparents as Parents Project

01224 210060 (please call to reserve a place)

1st or 2nd Saturday each month 2-4pm

Befriend a Child, 9 Bon Accord Square, Aberdeen, AB11 6DJ

Children have activities whilst adults meet up

Contacting the Kinship Care Team:			kinshipcare@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Elaine Bremner	Team Manager	01888 569260	elaine.bremner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Cheryl Simpson	Social Worker North	01779 484221	cheryl.simpson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Denese Smith	Social Worker South & Central	01224 666205	denese.smith@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Sandra McGuigan	Family Support Worker South	01224 666226	sandra.mcguigan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Jill Campbell	Social Worker North	01771 638241	jill.campbell@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Karoline McCallum	Family Support Worker North	01771 638240	karoline.mccallum@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Jane Livingston	Social Worker North	01261 813187	jane.livingston@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Rachel Peacock	Social Worker Central – p/time	01467 626416	rachel.peacock@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Duty number		01888 569260	Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm
Out of Hours		03456 08 12 06	Out with Office Hours, Weekend & Public Holidays
24 Support & Advice Line		01467 670058	Out with Office Hours, Weekend & Public Holidays

