

# Early Permanence: Information for birth parents

This is an easy read version



Some things you can do to make it easier to understand are:

- read it a few pages at a time
- have someone help you to understand it

## This Easy Read document is about the plans being made for your child

This leaflet is to help you understand the Local Authority plans for your child.

The local authority plan is for your child to be looked after by foster carers.

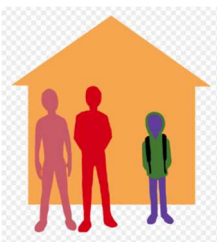


You may be feeling angry, sad or confused.



You may be feeling worried about your child's future

## What is an early permanence placement



Your child will be placed in a foster placement as soon as possible

It is to make sure that your child has the best possible care whilst their future is being decided

The foster carers are chosen just for your child

The foster carers are also prepared as adopters

If your child is to be adopted, their foster carers will adopt them

This means that your child will not have to move from a foster carer to an adoptive family

We know that moving children to different homes causes them trauma

Staying with the same carers and being adopted by them means the child stays settled with a family they know

If your child returns to be with you, the carer will help your child to settle back with you

If your child goes to be with someone from your family, the carer will help your child to settle with them

## **How can we help you as parents**

If your child is not yet born, you will still have an assessment

The court will decide if any other assessments are needed

You will still be able to see your child regularly

The meetings with your child are called contact

The meeting will be supervised in a contact centre

The carers will bring your child to the contact centre

You will be supported with these contact meetings

The meetings with your child will hopefully be a time to get to know the carers as well

## What could happen to your child



The court will decide where your child can live

The court makes its decision with information from:

- Your child's Social Worker
- Your child's Guardian
- Other professionals who have been involved with you and or your family



You will be able to tell the court why your child should stay with you

The court may decide your child cannot return to you or someone in your family

If your child cannot be with you, they will stay with the early permanence carers.

## Who are the foster carers looking after your child?

Early permanence carers are people who would like to adopt a child

Early permanence carers are also prepared as foster carers

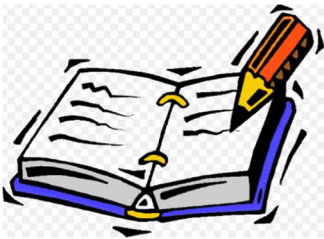
Early permanence carers are carefully chosen to care for your child

It is the early permanence carer's role to help support you to know how your child is

It is the early permanence carer's role to help you keep a relationship with your child

You will be able to meet the early permanence carer when they bring your child to contact meetings

The early permanence carer will let you know how your child is doing



## What will my child be told

We hope that you feel the carers respect and understand you

The carers will tell your child about you

The carers will tell your child that you love them

The carers will tell your child that you had problems that made it hard for you to look after them

## Who can you get advice from



Your Child's Social Worker will explain this information in more detail.



It may help to discuss this leaflet with your solicitor or legal representative