



family futures CIC  
3 & 4 Floral Place  
7 – 9 Northampton Grove  
Islington London N1 2PL  
T 020 7354 4161 F 020 7704 6200

## What is Family Futures?

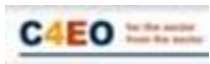


## A Guide for Young People who have Recently been Placed for Adoption in a New Family

*A Community Interest Company that is a Not-for-Profit Social Enterprise putting children and parents before profit!*

Family Futures CIC, a community interest company registered in England and Wales with registered company number 8423617, whose registered office address is Wellesley House, Duke of Wellington Avenue, Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SS. Adoption agency registration – SC462984.

[www.familyfutures.co.uk](http://www.familyfutures.co.uk)



Company registration n° 8423617

Family Futures is an Adoption Agency.

We find adoptive parents for children who can't live with their birth family. Adoptive parents are parents who will always be your parents, even when you're grown up.

At Family Futures we know that it is hard and sometimes sad and scary living in a new family with adoptive parents, we know that children and young people often have lots of questions and things that they're not clear about.

The staff at Family Futures are here to help you understand what it means to be adopted and to help you to share your questions and feelings with us and with your adoptive parents.

We will be here to help you not just now as you move into your new family but for a long time afterwards so that you and your adoptive parents always have someone outside of the family that you can talk to if you are worried.

We also know that now and in the future you may have lots of questions you want to ask us or your adoptive parents.

The adults at Family Futures are here to help you and your adoptive parents answer these questions.

### How will we do this?

Here at Family Futures we will talk to you and find out what you think and what you want to say. We will also talk to your adoptive parents, brothers and sisters. During your time at Family Futures we will use drawing, painting, stories, music, drama and other art forms. Sometimes we will make contact with your birth family, if you or your adoptive parents think this might be helpful.

### Do you want to do this?

We know that it is not easy and that it is hard to trust people; but we also know that young people, who have had difficult starts in life, are survivors. They are strong and deep down want things to be better.

The adults at Family Futures will:

- Keep you safe
- Will listen to any worries or fears you may have
- Help you talk to your adoptive parents
- Help you understand what's happened to you in the past
- Help you feel good about yourself
- Help you make good choices and have fun

At Family Futures we are not Children's Services. We don't take children away from their adoptive parents.



All children have rights. If you feel you are not being listened to and you want to talk to somebody about how you are feeling, or if you can't talk to your parents, your teacher or anyone at Family Futures you can ask NYAS to help you.

Web: [www.nyas.net/helpline](http://www.nyas.net/helpline)  
Free Phone: 0808 808 1001  
Email: [help@nyas.net](mailto:help@nyas.net)

We try to do our best but sometimes we get it wrong. If you are unhappy about anything that has been said to you or has happened to you when you have been at Family Futures, you have the right to complain.

### How can I complain?

You can complain by talking to or writing to any of the following people:

- Your Parents/Carers
- Your Social Worker
- Your Therapist at Family Futures
- Your Children's Advocate (if you are still on a Care Order to a Local Authority)
- Your Independent Reviewing Officer
- Family Futures' Independent Person, Roger Weissman. Roger is experienced in the fields of fostering and adoption and is independent of Family Futures. His job is to make sure children and families get a good service from Family Futures.

If a complaint is made, all these people will take it seriously and investigate, and will try to sort things out in a friendly way.

### How do I contact these people?

Family Futures  
Email: [contact@familyfutures.co.uk](mailto:contact@familyfutures.co.uk)  
Tel: 020 7354 4161  
Web: [www.familyfutures.co.uk](http://www.familyfutures.co.uk)

Roger Weissman  
Tel: 07957 657721  
Email: [roger.weissman@lineone.net](mailto:roger.weissman@lineone.net)

### Then what happens next?

Whoever you have approached will try and sort out the problem with you and the person concerned as quickly and fairly as possible. If you are still not happy, then you should tell the person you originally complained to that you are not happy and they will start a detailed investigation into your complaint. How this will be done will be explained to you.

Alternatively you can contact Ofsted's Children Rights Director. OFSTED register and inspect Family Futures and are there to protect you.

Ofsted  
Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD  
Tel 0300 123 1231

Or you can contact the Children's Rights Director for England  
Free Phone: 0800 528 0731  
[advice.team@childrenscommissioner.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:advice.team@childrenscommissioner.gsi.gov.uk)

Social Worker  
**Write their name and number here**

Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO)  
**Write their name and number here**

WHERE IS MY BIRTH FAMILY NOW?  
ARE THEY OK? CAN I SEE THEM?  
WHY DID I LEAVE THEM? WAS IT MY FAULT?  
AM I REALLY GOING TO STAY HERE FOREVER?  
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME WHEN I WAS YOUNGER?  
AM I MAD? AM I BAD? AM I STUPID?  
AM I SAFE?  
WHAT SORT OF GROWN UP WILL I BE?