



Scottish Social
Services Council

Informing the learning and development framework for foster carers

This questionnaire has three sections:

- Section A** information about you and your foster caring experience
- Section B** information about the learning and development opportunities you have received since applying to become a foster carer
- Section C** your views on the learning and development opportunities that should be included in the learning and development framework for foster carers

When completed, please return as soon as possible, or at the latest by Friday 31 October 2014 to the following address.

Franziska Toma
Scottish Social Services Council
Compass House,
11 Riverside Drive,
Dundee
DD1 4NY

**All the information given in this questionnaire will be treated confidentially.
Thank you for your help and cooperation.**

Section A: Information about you and your foster caring experience

1. How long you have been a foster carer?

awaiting approval

☐

0 to 1 year

☐

1 to 2 years

☐

2 to 5 years

☐

more than 5 years

☐

2. What type of foster care placement do you provide (permanent, specialist)?

3. What foster carer local authority /agency are you registered with?

4. Please list any qualifications you hold and when you achieved them that you feel are relevant to your role as a foster carer (eg SNNEB, HNC Child Care and Education, SVQ Children's Care Learning and Development).

Section B: Learning and development opportunities

5. Please tell us the learning and development opportunities (they do not need to be recognised by an awarding body eg SQA) you received from your local authority/agency, during your preparatory phase, **after you applied to be a foster carer but before you were approved**, if it was certificated and its usefulness to you as a foster carer.

Learning and development opportunity	Tick if certificated	Usefulness from one to 10 with 10 the most useful

6. Please tell us any learning and development opportunities (they do not need to be recognised by an awarding body eg SQA) you received from your local authority/agency **after you were approved and before your first annual review**, if it was certificated and its usefulness to you as a foster carer.

Learning and development opportunity	Tick if certificated	Usefulness from one to 10 with 10 the most useful

7. Please tell us any learning and development opportunities (they do not need to be recognised by an awarding body eg SQA) you received from your local authority/agency **after your first annual** review, if it was certificated and its usefulness to you as a foster carer.

Learning and development opportunity	Tick if certificated	Usefulness from one to 10 with 10 the most useful

Section C: Learning and development opportunities that should be included in the learning and development framework for foster carers

8. Please tell us of any specific areas of learning and development that you feel should be included in the learning and development framework after they have applied but before they become carers during their preparatory phase.

9. We are proposing that the new framework should have some mandatory learning and development for new foster carers (after foster carers are approved and before their first annual review).

Here are some core areas of learning that we are considering for the mandatory training. These areas of learning have been taken from the National Occupational Standards (NOS) in Social Services (Children and Young People). These NOS underpin the qualifications held by the social services workforce in Scotland.

- Communicating with others
- Health, safety and security
- Reflective practice
- The safeguarding of children and young people

In addition to these four core areas, please tell us below any additional specific areas of learning and development that you feel should be included in the learning and development framework for foster carers during their first year.

10. Please tell us below any other areas of learning and development that you feel should be included in the mandatory programme of continuous skills and knowledge for experienced foster carers (after first annual review).

11. If you would like to provide us with any other feedback please complete the comment box below.

If you have any further questions please contact Franziska Toma at franziska.toma@sssc.uk.com or call 01382 346432.

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey.