

ADOPTION: A STEP-BY-STEP OVERVIEW

STEP 1: Get in touch... Make an initial enquiry to St. Francis' Children's Society via phone, email or at www.sfcs.org.uk

STEP 2: More information... Within five working days, we will send you an information pack.

STEP 3: An invitation... You will be warmly welcomed to a First Wednesday information event or a Lunchtime Drop-In session. *If you would like more information before or after you attend one of our events, please don't hesitate to call and speak to a duty social worker*

STEP 4: Full referral and Registration of Interest... After a full referral is taken over the phone, we will arrange to visit you to discuss your interest further and to do a Health & Safety check on your home. If you still wish to proceed, we will ask you to complete a Registration of Interest form.

STEP 5: Meet your social worker... On receipt of your Registration of Interest form, a manager will decide if your application can be accepted. If we can proceed, you will be allocated a social worker, who will visit you at home to discuss the next stage.

ENTER STAGE 1 – REFERENCES AND CHECKS

STEP 6: Training begins... During Stage 1, you will be invited to attend a Foundation Training session, which will introduce you to SFCS and the adoption process.

STEP 7: Statutory checks... Meanwhile, statutory checks will be carried out, including DBS checks, medicals and personal references.

STEP 8: Ready for Stage 2...? Once all your references have been received, your social worker will establish with you whether you are ready to enter the next stage...

*Stage 1 should be completed in 2 months, unless you ask for more time. Please note that this time frame will also rely on your references being received by SCFS. **Then it's on to Stage 2...***

ADOPTION:
A STEP-BY-STEP OVERVIEW *continued*

ENTER STAGE 2 – THE HOME STUDY PROCESS

STEP 9: Time to prepare... Stage 2 is an in-depth assessment to prepare you for the task of becoming a parent. During this time, you will be expected to attend four full days of Preparation Training at SFCS.



STEP 10: Time to review... A review of your homestudy preparation will usually be held by an adoption manager towards the end of your assessment.

We aim to complete your assessment within four months of your application being accepted.



STEP 11: Adoption panel... When you and your social worker feel you are ready, it's time to meet the Adoption Panel.



STEP 12: Decision time... A recommendation is made by the Adoption Panel, and the SFCS Decision Maker will make the final decision.

If you are successful, the search for the right child for you will begin...

