

# WELCOME TO Lorimer Fostering

a guide for children





This book is for you to keep  
and use when you want to  
find something out.



# HELLO FROM LORIMER FOSTERING

Lorimer Fostering was set up especially for children like you who need a foster family.

It's important for us to find a foster family who can look after you and make you feel safe, secure and cared for.

Sometimes you might feel confused about what is happening to you and that there seems to be lots of people involved.

This book will give you some useful information about us and what it's like to live in a foster family.

Your foster carer will help you to answer some of the questions in this book and you can draw pictures or write notes to help you remember the answers.



Nice to  
meet you!





Your name:

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Your Foster Carer's name(s):

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Your address:

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Your telephone number:

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Your Social Worker's name:

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Your Social Worker's telephone number:

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Your Independent Reviewing Officer's name:

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Your Independent Reviewing Officer's telephone number:

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Your Lorimer Supervising Social Worker's name:

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Your Lorimer Supervising Social Worker's tel number:

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What was it like where you used to live?

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What did you like best  
about where you used  
to live?

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Was there anything you  
didn't like about where  
you used to live?

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# ALL ABOUT ME

I like to be called

I am years old

My eye colour is

I am excited/ interested about

My best friend's name is

My school is called

My Favourites

Food

Movie

Colour

Game

Likes

Dislikes

My Goal This Year



## **What does 'looked after' mean?**

Being 'looked after' means being cared for by someone else, when your own family can't look after you.

## **What is fostering?**

Fostering is when you go to live with another family, called a foster family, who have been trained to look after you. They will help you with all the things that you need to learn as you're growing up.

**Can you name any other children or famous people who are or who have been fostered?**



# THIS IS MY FOSTER FAMILY



Draw a picture above.



# YOUR FOSTER CARER(S) WILL MAKE SURE YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED



Your carer(s) will help you to celebrate birthdays and festivals that are important to you.



They will make sure you have the chance to see people you love, and spend time with your friends.



Your carer(s) will make sure you have a cosy bedroom of your own, or with your brothers and sisters, and space to put your things.



They will make sure you can get to pre-school or school. When you have homework they will help and support you.



They will give you some pocket money to spend – you can talk to them about how much.



Your carer(s) will make sure you have a quiet and safe space to meet your social worker.

# YOUR RIGHTS

There are certain ways you should be treated no matter what; these are called your **'rights'**. You have the right:



To be kept safe, secure and protected.

To be listened to and treated fairly and equally.

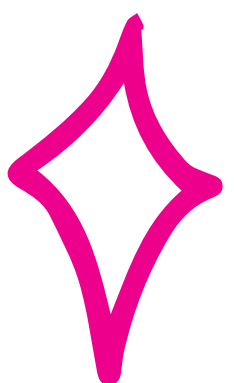
To be given the information and advice you need about education and health.

To access an advocate who can help you if you want to make a complaint.

To celebrate your own culture and religion.

To get help and support if you have a disability.

To know why you are being looked after by a foster family and when you can spend time with your family and friends.





## IF I AM BEING BULLIED, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

If you are being bullied, tell someone you trust who can help you, for example, your foster carer, social worker, friend or teacher.

If you are being bullied by your foster carer or someone else who is looking after you, you must tell your social worker or another adult you trust and they will get help.

## IF I WANT TO MAKE A COMPLAINT, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

At Lorimer we have something called a 'complaints procedure' so you can ask questions about what is happening to you and tell us if you are not happy with something. Whatever the problem is, we will always try and sort it out for you.

You might not be happy about your foster carer(s), social worker, school or something else.

You should talk to your foster carer, social worker or another adult you trust if you are not happy about things and they will do what they can to help you.

If you are still not happy, you can make a complaint.

You can contact Lorimer's complaints manager, Louise Forsdike, on [advice@lorimerfostering.com](mailto:advice@lorimerfostering.com) or you can phone, text or WhatsApp him directly on 07927 399 951.

# USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

## CHILDLINE

**Helpline:** 0800 1111  
24 hours, 7 days a week  
**Website:** [childline.org.uk](http://childline.org.uk)



## HELP AT HAND

**Helpline**  
0800 528 0731

**Website**  
[childrenscommissioner.gov.uk  
/help-at-hand/](http://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/help-at-hand/)

**Email**  
[help.team@childrens  
commissioner.gov.uk](mailto:help.team@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

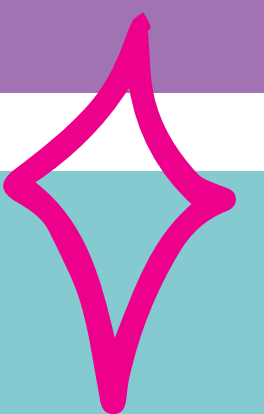
## LORIMER'S COMPLAINTS MANAGER

**Name**  
Louise Forsdike

**Telephone**  
07927 399 951

**Email**  
[advice@lorimerfostering.com](mailto:advice@lorimerfostering.com)

**Address**  
2a Carrington Lane, Sale,  
Manchester, M33 5ND



## THE MIX

**Helpline:** 0808 808 4994  
(daily from 3pm to 12am)  
**Website:** [themix.org.uk](http://themix.org.uk)  
**SMS Support:** text  
'THEMIX' to 85258 (24-  
hours a day & free)

## NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCACY SERVICE

**Helpline:** 0808 808 1001  
(9am – 8pm)  
**Website:** [nyas.net](http://nyas.net)  
**Email:** [help@nyas.net](mailto:help@nyas.net)

# OFSTED

Ofsted is a government organisation and part of their role is to make sure that Lorimer Fostering are doing all they can to make sure you are looked after and cared for properly. Sometimes they will come to do an inspection and will talk to foster carers, managers, social workers and others who are there to make sure you are well cared for.

They like to get your views and listen to your opinion. This means they will sometimes send you a questionnaire to fill in. You might also be asked if you want to talk to an inspector when they come to visit. They like to hear from children and young people as your views are very important.

You can also contact them if you would like to.

Their address is:

**Ofsted**

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

**Telephone:** 0300 123 1231

**Website:** [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

**Email:** [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)

# THE CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER

The Children's Commissioner for England is called Rachel de Souza. As Children's Commissioner, Rachel has a very important job. Working at the heart of the Government, her role is to champion the voices and needs of children just like you.

You can get in touch with the Children's Commissioner team confidentially about any questions you might have or anything that is troubling you. There is no issue that is too big or too small.

They promise to treat you with respect, listen to your concerns, and offer useful advice and support when you need it.

The Children's Commissioner keeps track of all the different issues that matter most to young people in care, making sure that government decision-makers know about the most frequent concerns raised by children.

**If you would like to contact the Children's Commissioner, you can use the details below.**

**The Office of the  
Children's Commissioner**

Sanctuary Buildings  
20 Great Smith Street  
London  
SW1P 3BT



[help.team@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](mailto:help.team@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)



020 7783 8330



[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

KEEP YOUR IMPORTANT  
CONTACT DETAILS  
HERE

Your Doctor

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Your Friends  
& Family

Your Dentist

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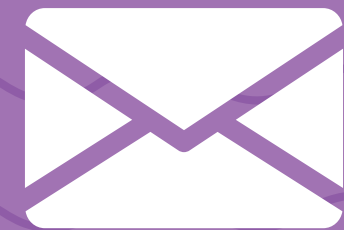




Contact Us on  
**0161 972 7760**  
if you have any  
questions or need  
any support



**Lorimer**  
*at the heart of* **Fostering**



[advice@lorimerfostering.com](mailto:advice@lorimerfostering.com)



**2a Carrington Lane,  
Sale, Manchester  
M33 5ND**



**Here for you,  
whenever  
you need us**

Get in touch with us  
here at Lorimer if you  
have questions,  
concerns or would just  
like to chat with  
someone.

[www.lorimerfostering.com](http://www.lorimerfostering.com)