

Profiles of children waiting to be adopted

Children from all over the UK are waiting for adoptive families. The main reason children cannot return to live with their birth families is because they are not able to provide safe and consistent care.

The majority of children waiting to be adopted are aged between 18 months and 8 years. There are however babies placed for adoption, brother and sister groups often need to be placed together and children with special medical needs, disabilities learning difficulties also await families.

All the children have individual and varying needs and, if possible, an adoptive family should promote the cultural and ethnic needs of the child and their background. The overriding priority is to find loving families for children.

Adopted children have the right to know about their origins and past history. Honesty and openness are known to assist with a child's sense of identity. For some children it is appropriate to keep in contact with people from their past and this includes direct or indirect contact with their birth families or previous carers. There is an expectation that adoptive parents are willing to facilitate some form of contact with birth family usually via a mailbox scheme or, in some cases by telephone or visits. The team help support families with all aspects of adoption.

The attached selection of profiles reflects the diverse backgrounds and needs of children that this agency has been looking for families over the last 12 months.