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**Empowering children
and young people to be
happy and make their
way in the world.”**

Quality and Impact Report

January – December 2022





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Children say they feel safe and that they trust their foster carers. The sense of safety that children experience underpins the progress they make in their lives.

**Alpha Plus Fostering
January 2022**

Quality and impact are at the heart of what we do.



Being part of National Fostering Group is an absolute pleasure. Nothing makes me prouder than knowing every one of our team members, get up every morning ready to deliver our pledge to; keep children and young people safe, and care well for them, help them get a good education, to be healthy and enjoy their lives and support them with their future and next adventure.

Our impact report is a snapshot of how we're delivering on that pledge, and as you're about to find out, we're doing incredibly well.

For the love, commitment, and skill of our amazing carers, supported by our professional and expert teams, when a child or young person is placed with one of our agencies, that child will always be central to our thoughts and deeds. We'll ensure they are safe, we'll listen to them, give them plenty of opportunity to learn and have fun, and most importantly, they will be nurtured to reach their individual potential.

This manifests itself in the educational results they earn, the outcomes they achieve, and the positive impact they subsequently make on the world. We invest in providing our children and young people with experiences that develop their personal skills, and that they will have pride in when reflecting later in their lives.

These outcomes do not happen by accident. Our carers and resolute teams are united in a mission to put our children and young people at the heart of everything they do. We're passionate about bringing more foster carers into our family, so we can continue to support them in improving the lives of children and young people across the UK.

I hope you enjoy reading the report, and if you have any feedback or comments, please don't hesitate to get in touch at info@nfa.co.uk.

Steve Christie
Chief Executive Officer

“Using our online tool, My Youth Voice, we ask for feedback from our children and young people to understand how they think and feel.”



Our Impact In Numbers



Our carers created loving homes for over

4,000

children and young people.



ARUN HOPE

We opened Arun Hope, our new Family Assessment Centre.



Foster carers help children to lead full and active lives, including making sure that children can enjoy a wide range of activities that enable them to pursue their interests and hobbies.

Familyplacement.com
September 2022

68%

of children have lived with us for 12 months or more and

50%

for two years or more.



Our carers supported

210

adults in Staying Put or Continuing Care arrangements.

Therapeutic Parenting



100% of our staff

+

83% of our foster carers

had completed our Introduction to Therapeutic Parenting course.

Some are now on track to complete the longer accredited course.



Education Attainment



By supporting foster parents to create safe, secure, nurturing environments, we give vulnerable children and young people the great start in life they deserve.

The children and young people in our fostering network have faced several years of educational disruption due to the pandemic. 2022 saw the return to Year 6 SATs exams in England, and saw most other examinations (GCSEs / Scottish Nationals etc.) return to normal across the UK.

Despite the challenges, they worked hard and achieved great educational success.

84%

of pupils achieved an English and Mathematics GCSE (England, Wales and NI)

English and Maths GCSE (9-4)

38%

English and Maths GCSE (9-5)

22%

95%

of pupils achieved an English and Mathematics National Qualification (Scotland)

96%

examination pass rate

across all qualifications entered at age 16

*This includes GCSEs, Scottish Nationals, BTECs and any other relevant qualification entered at the end of secondary education.

Overall pass rate for English qualifications

97%

Overall pass rate for Mathematics qualifications

95%



100%

of young people attending a special school achieved qualifications, in line with the outcomes set out in their EHCP.

100%

of unaccompanied asylum seekers were enrolled on a course, working towards ESOL qualifications.

Education Participation Post 16

98% moved from secondary school into a positive education, employment or training placement.

My Youth Voice



Working with our children and young people, we created a bespoke online tool to ask for feedback to understand more about their life and how they feel in their home.

Our staff use their responses to track their progress and action plan to improve key elements of their life.

Over 2,500

surveys were completed with children and young people in 2022.

97%

say they are well cared for in their home.

97%

say they feel safe in their home.

96%

say they have fun and opportunities to enjoy themselves in their home.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

45

young people of 14 years and older were working towards a Duke of Edinburgh's Award during 2022.

15

of these young people were able to undertake the expedition section of the award in the summer of 2022, our first expeditions since the pandemic.



British Exploring Society

2022 was our first year back from the pandemic, working with British Exploring Society to provide life-changing opportunities to young people in wild places that require them to reconnect with the natural world and their own personal development.

During 2022:

3

young people went on a three-week wilderness expedition to the **Canadian Yukon.**

27

young people went on a 9 day wilderness expedition to **Scotland.**

All 30

also attended training weekends and other expedition preparation programmes.



What our carers say about us



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The support from my supervising social worker, agency and training has **helped me to grow as a foster carer** over the years. I am always learning and improving skills to foster.”

Foster Carer - Mohammad

“

My supervising social worker understands me and knows what I am capable of and where I will work best.

I totally trust her judgement.

She always responds to my calls and messages quickly and gives honest advice.”

Foster Carer - Gill

“

The support we receive from our agency is **second to none**, my supervising social worker is available and are compassionate and understanding.”

Foster Carers - Ian and Dave

“

My current supervising social worker supports

me and will speak up at Looked After Children reviews and Core Group meetings. She will also come back to me as soon as she can if I contact her and she is not available. Communication is good between us.”

Foster Carers - Michelle and Wendy



“

I value the relationship with my supervising social worker and agency team as they are always there to

support, listen and advise

if I need them. I am always treated with the upmost respect and kindness whilst remaining professional.”

Foster Carer - Jason



“

I feel confident

knowing that if I need help, advice or reassurance. I can ring up on the phone or walk down to the office and be greeted by a warm smile and the help I need.”

Foster Carer - Simon



National
Fostering
Group