



THINGS TO DO THIS FALL

With Winter fast approaching and Autumn being here the weather drops but that doesn't mean you still can't have fun. See below a list of fun things to do this Fall:

- Whether you celebrate Halloween or not that doesn't mean you can't go Pumpkin Picking. There's lots of patches all over the UK so head down to your local patch and pick up some Pumpkins!
- If you do celebrate Halloween there is so much you can do! You can dress up & go trick or treating, you can even dress up, stay at home and have a spooky night in with treats and games. Whatever you decide to do be sure to send in photos.
- Autumnal Strolls. Just because the weather is a little chillier that doesn't mean you have to stay home.
- Drive in Cinemas! There's so many located all over the UK, check out your local and watch a movie!
- Book Winter Wonderland. This is booking up FAST so make your booking now for a fun trip!
- Firework Night is also soon approaching which means lots of fates will be out. Look out for your local fate.

Family First Fostering Autumn Newsletter 2021

AUTUMN IS HERE!

We hope you all had an amazing summer, it's now time to welcome Fall.

We would firstly like to say thank you to all our amazing foster carers who have done such an amazing job this year, we cannot praise you enough! The end of the year is fast approaching and despite it being a challenging year with unexpected twists and turns, regarding the pandemic, you have all been fantastic!

“May your troubles be less and your blessings be more” - Irish Blessing

Just to inform all foster carers that we will continue holding our panel virtually for the duration of next year. This has been working efficiently for us

and we find all parties involved in panel agree with this.

“A Positive Day begins with a Positive Mindset” - Unknown

Christmas is soon approaching and as you all know this can be a tough time for young people. We want to remind foster carers to please provide that extra bit of comfort and support for young people this Christmas. If you need support with this do not hesitate to contact your supervising social worker. Christmas time may also mean an extra contact session for young people, please remember the importance of this for young people and be sure to let them know they are fully supported.

Just a reminder that young people are now being asked if they would like to be vaccinated. Please ensure you speak to young people about this.

Also, something to look forward to is that the agency are definitely going to be holding a Christmas Party this year! Please keep an eye out for the invitation.



GIVE A WARM WELCOME

Please give a warm welcome to the new starters who have joined Family First!

New Staff:

We have had some new faces join the Family First Fostering team since the last newsletter. Firstly, please welcome our new

administrator Isaac.

We have also had some new supervising social workers join the team too, please welcome Zoe, Zara and Ana!

New Carers:

We have also been lucky enough to welcome lots of

new carers to the team. Congratulations on getting approved:

JN, ID&AA, FL, MW, DL, KB&LS, SM, RG&RG

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

- Firstly a huge well done to RC & JC for the amazing work and dedication they are providing to their placement of sibling group!
- A huge congratulations and well done to AA for her approval to adopt.
- We send a lot of praise to HS & KS for how proactive and dedicated they have been during the current circumstances they have managed.
- Well done to LW & AW in how well they are doing in providing great care for their young people.
- Also special recognition to ID for managing various challenges so well being a new carer too.

TRAINING & SUPPORT GROUP

At Family First Fostering during the pandemic we have been holding our trainings virtually. We have seen an increase in the number of attendees this way and therefore to upkeep this and reduce the risk of COVID-19 we will be continuing this for the duration of next year.

Certain trainings will require physical attendance but a majority will be held online.

Please see below a list of the upcoming trainings:

- Transition - moving on & life skills presented on the 21st October 2021
- Male Role in Foster Care presented on the 04th November
- Understanding Mental Health presented on the 18th November 2021
- CHARMS system and recordings presented on the 30th November

We would like to thank all the young people who attended our last workshops. It was great to see so many of you.

We are also going to be drafting our training schedule for 2022, if you have any suggestions on trainings you would like to be held, please contact the admin team.

As you know we, at Family First Fostering, regularly hold support groups. Support groups are important to get feedback from foster carers on how the agency can further support you all but also for foster carers to seek advice and support from one another.

Support Group will also continue to be held virtually but moving forward we would really like to see an increase in the number of carers who attend support group.

If you feel there is a way we can improve this please give your feedback to the admin team.

Next Support Group Sessions:

15th November 2021 – 10:30 to 12:00

14th December 2021 – 10:30 to 12:00



USE OF CHARMS

As you all know our agency system is CHARMS. We would like to remind carers of the importance of using CHARMS. CHARMS is a recording system and we would like carers to use it to its full capacity that being for writing reports, logging photos and comments and signing off documentation.

your supervising social worker or the office to arrange a one to one session. You can also attend our CHARMS system and recordings training which is coming up at the end of November.

Ideally, we as an agency would like all our carers to be navigating and using the system to its full capacity soon.

*"if you don't like something,
change it. If you cant change it,
change your attitude"*
- Maya Angelou

If you feel you can use extra support in navigating the system please contact

OFSTED

Just to Inform you all that Family First Fostering are due their OFSTED inspection soon.

During this time Supervising Social Workers are working to keep and build on the agencies good rating therefore you may find that Supervising Social Workers are going to be working more closely with foster carers.

Please do bare this in mind.



Recognition

The following staff members have had a promotion with the past few months so a huge well done to:

Victor on being promoted to Senior Supervising Social Worker

Anisha on her promotion to Senior Practitioner.

Also a well done on Mary for completing her ASYE.

FAMILY FIRST FOSTERING

413 HIGH STREET,
STRATFORD,
LONDON,
E1 4QZ

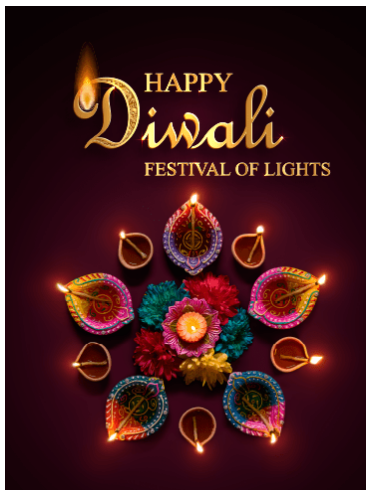
Phone: 0800 389 4448
Email: ADMIN@FAMILYFOSTERING.CO.UK

WE'RE ON THE WEB
www.familyfirstfostering.com



THANK YOU FOR READING!

UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS & IMPORTANT DATES



Save the Children
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

