

North Somerset Fostering Service – Support Groups 2015-6

All carers are invited to attend at least one group

Focus of support group	Details	Fostering Facilitator	Additional Input	Other Information
Carers of teenagers support group – for all carers approved for ages 13+ Could include supported lodging hosts	Monthly group <i>First meeting: Thursday 21/5/15 @ Youth Offending Service. 11-1pm</i>	Susannah Weeks (initial set up period) SSW: ?? Family Support key Worker	Consult Youth Offending Service (James Hopkins)	Will include the carers previously in the Youth Justice Support group and Specialist Placement Scheme carers who had teenagers. Topics will include youth justice issues, emotional well-being, behaviour, relationships, sex, drugs and the internet
Carers of Under 5's – for all carers approved for children aged 0-5. Stay and Play for foster carers and their young children	Initially will be run in a Weston children's centre, but plan a further group in the north of the county. Fridays monthly <i>Info event: Friday 12 June @ 1-2.30pm</i>	Susannah Weeks (initial set up period) SSW: ?? Family Support key Worker: ?	Children's Centre Speech and Language Virtual school teacher Carers who are accredited child minders	Will be activity based with access to all the resources children's centres provide.
Caring Crusaders - for children of foster carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tue 19 May 4-5.30 • Tue 14 July 4-5.30 	Mel Fowler Leslie Anderson		Need to think about needs of younger and older children

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Activities, refreshment and support to children who share their families with other children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tue 27 Oct 2-4.30 • Tue 15 Dec 4-5.30 	Replacement for Brie: ??		
Adoption Support – for carers who look after and prepare children for adoption	<p>Will start later in 2015</p> <p>Planning meeting 15 July 10am</p>	<p>Mel Fowler</p> <p>?? Training Officer</p>	Adoption team (Georgina)	Provides support and development to carers including life story work, introductions, adoption process and activity days etc
<p>SAFE – support group for carers looking after children with additional needs.</p> <p>Carers who have attended the 5 week 'Building Resilience' course in 2014 and 2015</p>	<p>Bi-monthly meeting at The Firs, Drove Rd, WsM 12.30-2pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed 13 May • Wed 8 July • Wed 9 Sept • Wed 11 Nov 	<p>Susannah Weeks</p> <p>SSW to take over group and training: ??</p>	<p>Consult: Claire Luker</p> <p>Children with learning Disabilities team: Sarah/Kirsty</p>	5 session training held Jan-Feb each year, and carers can then join support group
<p>Other groups identified but not yet planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult children of foster carers • Respite carers including Family Link • Other ideas?? 				