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| **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  **Contact:** [**cornelia.kurz@n-somerset.gov.uk**](mailto:cornelia.kurz@n-somerset.gov.uk) | **11-1pm**  **Monthly 3rd Thurs @ Clifton Rd**  **20 Aug – BBQ @ Kewstoke farm**  **17 Sept – Police/Children going missing**  **15 Oct – Education**  **19 Nov – Consult**  **17 Dec – Contact issues** | SSW: **Connie Kurz**  Family Support key Worker: **Debbie Stephens**  Consultant SW – attending some sessions - **Susannah Weeks** | Consult – **Claire Luker/John Steele**  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 |
| **Stay and Play for Carers of Under 5’s** – for all carers approved for children aged 0-5.  **Contact:** [**debbie.stephens@n-somerset.gov.uk**](mailto:debbie.stephens@n-somerset.gov.uk) | **Monthly 2nd Friday 1-2.30pm**  **@ Ashcombe Children’s Centre, Stepping Stone Walk, Earlham Grove. WsM**  **14 Aug**  **11 September**  **9 Oct**  **13 Nov**  **11 Dec** | SSW – **Tess Price / John Lewindon**  Family Support key Worker: **Debbie Stephens**  Consultant SW – occasional attendance **Susannah Weeks** | Children’s Centre crèche worker- **Emma Pattinson**  Speech and Language input - termly  Virtual school teacher  Carers who are accredited child minders | Will be activity based with access to all the resources children’s centres provide.  Builds children’s learning and development, and carer’s early years knowledge and skills  Plan for additional session in north of county in future |
| **Caring Crusaders**  - for children of foster carers  Activities, refreshment and support to children who share their families with other children  **Contact:** [**helen.stock@n-somerset.gov.uk**](mailto:helen.stock@n-somerset.gov.uk) | **Session in school holidays:**  **12 Aug – Noah’s Ark**  **28 Oct - @ Clifton Rd**  **Easter hols** | SSW - **Mel Fowler / Leslie Anderson**  Family Support Worker – **Helen Stock** |  | Need to think about needs of younger and older children |
| **Adoption Support –** for carers who look after and prepare children for adoption  Generally carers approved for under 8’s  **Contact:** [**melissa.fowler@n-somerset.gov.uk**](mailto:melissa.fowler@n-somerset.gov.uk) | **Alternate monthly on 1st Tuesday**  **10-11.30**  **@ The Firs, Drove Rd, WsM**  **3 Nov**  **5 Jan**  **1 March** | SSW - **Mel Fowler**  Training Officer - **Dawn Williams** | Adoption team – **Georgina Shuckburgh** | Provides support and development to carers including life story work, introductions, adoption process and activity days; and increases communication and joint work with adoption team etc |
| **SAFE – support group for carers looking after children with additional needs.**  Aimed at carers who have attended the 5 week ‘Building Resilience’ course in 2014 and 2015  **Contact:** [**susannah.weeks@n-somerset.gov.uk**](mailto:susannah.weeks@n-somerset.gov.uk) | Bi-monthly meeting at The Firs, Drove Rd, WsM 12.30-2pm   * Wed 9 Sept – health issues * Wed 11 Nov – emotional well-being issues | SSW - **Susannah Weeks**  Consult: **Claire Luker** | Children with learning Disabilities team: **Sarah Robinson** | 5 session training held Jan-Feb each year, and carers can then join support group  Has its own ‘secret’ Facebook group |
| **Recently Approved Carers Group –** for any carer who has been approved for less than 2 years (more if they haven’t completed TDS workbook)  **Contact:** [**charlotte.moore@n-somerset.gov.uk**](mailto:charlotte.moore@n-somerset.gov.uk) | Frequency to be confirmed – monthly / bi monthly | SSW Recruitment – **Charlotte Moore**  SSW Support – **Leslie Anderson**  Training Officer – **Dawn Williams** | Kinship Team ?  Foster carer(s) | Induction  Policy  Mentoring  TDS workbooks  Building support  Developing fostering skills and knowledge |
| **Other groups identified but not yet planned:**   * **Adult children of foster carers** * **Respite carers including Family Link** * **Other ideas??** |  |  |  |  |

**Susannah Weeks – Consultant Social Worker,** Fostering Support/Retention/Development