



Preparing Children in the Family for Adoption

The PCFA service has been developed to offer a separate Children's worker to meet with children already in a family where the parents are considering adopting another child.

The purpose of the service is to help the child think about and prepare for another child joining their family, and to be able to talk about this in private with their own worker. It's not only the parents who adopt a child – it is the whole family.

It also obviously helps in the matching process if we understand the wishes and fears of the existing children in the family as well as their personality, likes and dislikes.

We have worked with children and young people of all ages trying to find imaginative ways to help them picture what may be nice, and the not-so-nice things about a brother or sister living as part of their family. Drawing and poster making is very popular with the younger children – especially if it involves lots of glitter glue and glo-pens!

We have developed information leaflets for workers, parents and children and it our intention that this work is established as part of the standard practice with families wanting to adopt.