

**Recruitment And Retention Fostering Service  
Corporate Parenting Panel March 2021**

**Sivay Heer  
Head of Corporate Parenting**

## Golden Triangle Approach

- ▶ Milton Keynes aim is to ensure that our children remain at home with their families and our 'Golden Triangle' Approach is key to this.
- ▶ Early Intervention and Family Support.
- ▶ Edge of Care Panel
- ▶ Alternate Family Option ( Foster Care, Adoption, SGO, Residential Home, Supported Living, Semi Independent and Staying Put
- ▶ Throughput – 43 children left LA Care at the End of Dec 20.

# Current CIC and Fostering Data January 2021

- **Total number of Children in Care - 398**
- ▲ **Fostering Placements**
  - **290** of our Children are in Foster Care **(73%)**
  - **116** Children are Inhouse Foster Placements **(40%)**
  - **71** Children in Kinship Foster Placements **(24%)**
  - **102** Children in IFA **( 35%)**
  - **13** Children in Reg 24
  - **14** Staying Put Arrangement
- ▲ **3** Supported Lodging Placement
  - **18** Adoption Orders
  - **34** SGO

# Matching (Children Matched with Foster Carers Long Term) End January 2021

- ▶ 298 children in Foster Carer of which 90 children are Matched with Carers
- ▶ Reasons why Children not matched
  - 36 PO - 18 already placed with adopters
  - 98 ICO
  - 24 in Foster Placements Less than 12 months
  - 6 Discharge Plan
  - 34 Reg 24 - SGO Plan
  - 7 YP almost 18 years
  - 1 Child Wishes and Feelings
  - 2 Unplanned Endings

# Two Current Fostering Teams

## Data April 2020 – January 2021

- ▶ **Recruitment Assessment Team - Assessment of all Carers**
- ▶ **107** Enquiries - Leading to 25 visits and 7 Mainstream Assessments
- ▶ **34** Reg 24 Family or Friends Assessments – Leading to 34 SGO
- **15** Discharge of Approvals (Ageing Carers, retiring, adoption, SGO or allegations)
- **15** Discharge Kinship Assessments (primarily progressed to SGO carers)
- ▶ **Supervising/Retention and Support Team**
- **94** In house Mainstream Carers (reduction 18 carers since March 2020, 112 carers) and **33** Kinship Carers
- **Support** – 4/6weekly Supervision, Clinical supervision via attachment consultant, training, support groups, out of hours support, mentoring
- ▶ **Fostering Panel - Independent Chair, Panel Advisor and 10 independent panel members**

## Impact of Covid

- ▶ All Carers and Children have had RAG Rated Risk Assessment
- ▶ Virtual Visits and Unannounced Visits
- ▶ Anxiety Around Children Attending School
- ▶ Carer Vaccinations
- ▶ Stability
- ▶ Unplanned Endings

# Challenges/Strengths

- ▶ To Improve the recruitment of Mainstream Carers
- ▶ To improve Supported Lodging Carers
- ▶ Increase Staying Put
- ▶ Early Intervention Approach, Keeping Families together
- ▶ Throughput
- ▶ Increase of Adoption and SGO

# Fostering Feedback

“We received exactly the right support at the right time from the fostering service”

“In the darkest hour of the incident, the thing that got me through was knowing Beth was on the end of the phone, no matter what time in the night we needed her. We felt confident to carry on with her support”

“The support we get from the fostering team is absolutely amazing”