



# Statement of Purpose

Ansacare Fostering Agency  
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This Statement of Purpose has been formulated in line with the appropriate statute law which includes but is not limited to:

- The Children Act 1989.
- The Children Act 2004.
- Fostering Services National Minimum Standards 2011
- Fostering Services Regulations 2011: Standard 16 Statement of purpose and children's guide and Regulation 3, Statement of purpose and children's guide and Regulation 4.
- Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations 2010
- Carer Standards Act 2000

## 1. AnsaCare Fostering Agency

AnsaCare Fostering Agency was registered in 2010 as a private limited company registered in England and Wales under the companies act 1985. AnsaCare is registered as an independent fostering service under provision of the Care Standards Act 2000 and regulated by Ofsted.

## 2. Mission Statement

Our mission at AnsaCare is to make a positive difference in children and young people's lives. We aim to do this by achieving successful outcomes for the children and young people in our care. AnsaCare celebrates diversity and strives to instil integrity, compassion and confidence in each child and young person. We endeavour to give each child the necessary support and encouragement to become their own unique self.

### **Commitment to Equality and Diversity**

AnsaCare is committed to the principles of equal opportunity in all areas of the service. All members of staff and foster carers are inducted and provided with training and support in anti-discriminatory practice. AnsaCare embraces diversity and is committed to fulfilling its role by not discriminating against anyone because of their colour, race, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, health status, disability, religious beliefs or political views.

### **Participation and consultation**

We value feedback from children, young people, their families, foster carers, and professionals. Supervising social workers regularly speak to children and young people during visits and obtain their views, wishes and feelings about the care they are receiving. We seek quarterly feedback from children and young people to shape and develop our service.

### **Safeguarding**

AnsaCare is committed to ensuring safeguarding is at the heart of our service. All Agency carers and staff receive appropriate training and support to ensure that any safeguarding concerns can be identified and raised. Safeguarding matters should be brought to the attention of the Registered Manager, and reported to any of the following:

- Local child protection services – (LADO, Local Authority MASH)
- Police – 999 or online report
- NSPCC - Helpline 0800 800 5000 or [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

### **Aims and Objectives**

AnsaCare Fostering Agency aims to help local authorities obtain the best possible outcomes for the children in their care, and to improve the day to day lives of children in relation to:

- Physical and Mental Health and Emotional well-being
- Safeguarding from ALL forms of abuse
- Education, Training and Social Recreation
- Their Contribution to Society
- Their Social and Economic well-being
- Promoting the 'VOICE OF THE CHILD'

## 3. Principals of Care:

- Provide a responsive and supportive 24-hour service for foster carers and looked after children.
- Provide safe and secure foster placements for looked after children which offer consistent and caring family life.

- Promote a child centred approach through practice which ensures that decisions and support enables children and young people to reach their full potential. Their views, wishes and feelings are listened to and are important to us.
- Ensure careful matching of a child's needs and wishes with the skills and qualities of foster carers.
- Ensure the cultural and diversity needs of each child and young person are taken into consideration and promoted.
- Promote the educational achievement of young people enabling them to progress onto further education or employment.
- Encourage children/young people to develop social interests, hobbies and take part in a range of community-based activities.
- Promote a healthy lifestyle and ensure that every child's emotional and physical health needs are met.
- Promote contact with the birth family and significant others as agreed.
- Ensure that all foster carers have access to support, training, and guidance.
- Provide on-going learning and professional development for foster carers and staff.
- Ensure commitment to developing our practice and the services we provide through the views of foster carers, children/young people, parents and other professionals to whom we provide a service.
- To recruit foster carers who are committed to providing children with a positive and nurturing experience.

#### 4. Services Provision

Ansacare Fostering Services provide a range of foster placements. Placements will be offered with carers who are appropriately matched to the individual child/young person and their needs.

Our services are compliant with the Fostering Services Regulations. Children/young people will be matched with families which reflect their religious, cultural and diversity needs. Where placements are transracial, we ensure that the cultural needs of the child continue to be met. We emphasise the development of a positive racial and cultural identity.

Safeguarding issues will be dealt with promptly in line with safeguarding procedures, Corporal punishment will not be used in any circumstances with clear guidance provided on use of sanctions and a written record kept of any use of sanction.

Daily records are kept for each child, and we ensure that carers understand the importance of maintaining confidentiality of records. Our foster Carers are working to promote the child/young person's care plan within the terms of the placement agreement, and work to facilitate contact as well as work with re-unification plans for the child/young person as required.

All fostering assessments are completed by qualified and experienced staff, and we continue to recruit experienced and skilled Form F Assessors to ensure our assessment and recruitment process is strengthened.

We recruit foster carers from a range of backgrounds who are able to provide high quality foster placements for children in the care of Local Authorities. All our carers complete 'Skills to Foster' training, and we provide on-going training and frequent foster carers' support group sessions. Our carers receive regular support visits and good quality supervision from experienced and skilled supervising social workers. The Agency provides 24-hour support to foster carers.

Types of placements provided by our service are:

- Emergency
- Short term
- Long Term
- Short breaks (respite)
- Solo Placements
- Sibling Placements
- Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)

#### Matching Children with Foster Families

All placements will be closely matched to facilitate the needs of the child/young person with the skills and experience of the available carers in line with our matching policy. We will liaise closely with local authorities to ensure the best possible match for the child/young person and the foster carer. We recognise the individual in the child/young person and the uniqueness of our carers. We will not make placements which are not a good match, as we are focussed on getting the best outcome for children and young people placed with us. Where carers need support to meet the identified or developing needs of the child/young person, Ansacare will provide support in negotiation with the placing Authority.

#### **Finance**

Foster carers receive a fostering allowance on a weekly basis for the children in their care. The level of fostering allowance depends on the type of placement and carer's experience. Carers also annually receive 2 weeks holiday pay. Carers are self-employed and as such are responsible to pay tax and national insurance where necessary. Further information and guidance are contained in the foster carer's Welcome Pack.

#### **Insurance**

Ansacare has fully comprehensive insurance based on the standards set out by Ofsted. Foster Carers are required to have their own household contents insurance and are advised to ensure that their insurance company is aware of their role as foster carers.

## **5. Management and Organisational structure**

The Director and Responsible individual and has regular meetings with the Registered Manager who is responsible for the day to day running of the service, including recruitment, assessment, development, training, and support to foster carers. The Registered Manager oversees the operation of the Agency and the development of services to foster carers, children, and young people. The Registered Manager is a qualified social worker with experience in Statutory and Private sector.

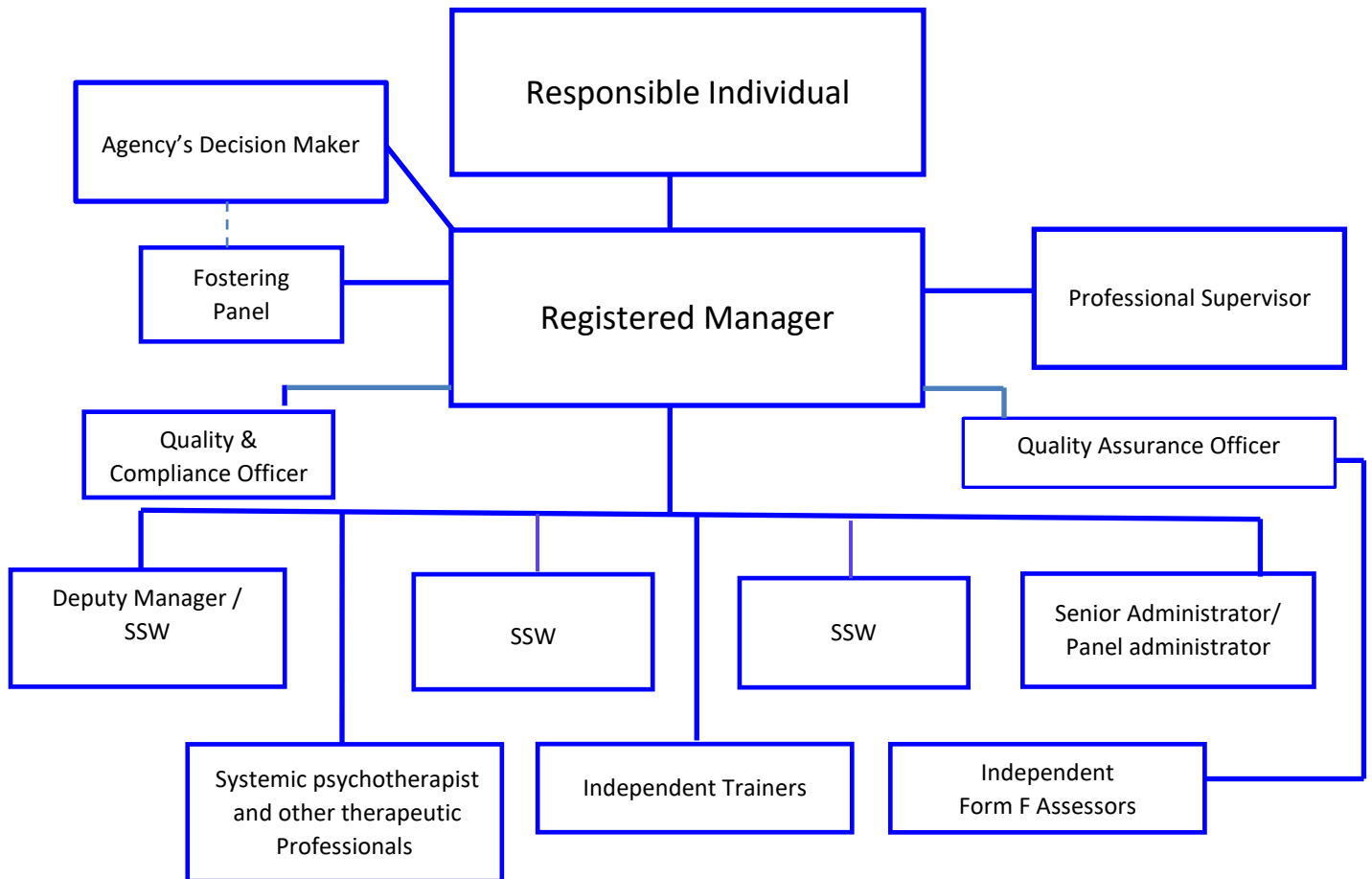
#### Fostering Panel

The Fostering Panel ensures the suitability of foster carers, and overriding objectives are to promote and safeguard the welfare of children in foster care. Our fostering panels meet on a regular basis and is supported with medical advice as required. The Independent Panel Chair is a Qualified Social worker and has extensive knowledge working within the fostering sector and with children and young people.

The Panel is made up of the following:

Independent Panel Chair - Qualified Social Worker, Independent Vice-Chair - Qualified Social Worker  
Independent Panel Advisor - Qualified Social Worker, Registered Nurse, Independent Panel member  
– Foster Carer from another Agency, Previously Looked After Young Person – Care Leaver,  
Independent Panel members - Qualified Social Workers

## Management and Organisational Structure



## 6. Recruitment, assessment, and approval of foster carers

### Recruitment

Anacare is committed to recruiting a diverse range of foster carers who can meet the needs of children and young people. We aim to recruit carers from different ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds and from all parts of the community who are able to bring a variety of skills, knowledge, and experience to the fostering role.

### Application Process

Potential applicants can contact the Agency to find out more about fostering and speak to a member of the team. Once the potential applicant has had an opportunity to find out about fostering and is keen to apply, they will be asked to complete an enquiry form. If the enquiry form is positive an initial home visit will be arranged.

All applicants need to:

- Have a spare bedroom
- Be over 21 years of age
- Be able to provide transport or transport children e.g., school, contact
- Be able to keep records relating to children placed
- Be able to attend all meetings
- Actively promote equality, diversity, and inclusion
- Have some IT skills

### Initial Visits

During the initial visit, applicants will receive further information around fostering and may ask any questions they may have. The discussion will include exploration of skills, knowledge, and motivation to foster, and any practical requirements. The person undertaking the initial visit will view and assess the accommodation. Following the visit, the initial visit report will be shared with the Registered Manager and if appropriate, an application pack will be provided for the prospective foster carers to complete and return, before 'stage 1' of the assessment process can begin.

### Stage 1 – Statutory Checks:

Stage 1 of the application process includes checks which will provide further information to ascertain if the applicants will be suitable to foster. Following written consent from prospective carers, Anacare will ensure that satisfactory clearance is received in relation to the following checks: DBS check, Local Authority Check, Medical, References, Health & Safety checks, and any other check which is required to ensure suitability. The Applicants will be invited to undertake Skills to Foster Training, observations and feedback will form part of the assessment process. If all checks are satisfactory, the applicants can progress to 'stage 2' of the assessment process.

### Stage 2

An assessment is undertaken by an independent social worker to produce a comprehensive report that covers individual profiles, past and present relationships/partnerships, support networks, interviews with children and adult members of the household, lifestyle, parenting capacity, experience and overall suitability to care for children in care. This is referred to as the 'form F' assessment and will make recommendations on the terms of approval e.g., number of children, age range, placement types.

Following completion of the form F assessment, the applicants are invited to attend the fostering panel with their assessor, whereby the panel will make their recommendations. The function of the panel is to provide an independent quality assurance role, to consider the approval of applicants and the continuation of approval of existing carers. Following panel presentation, the applicants are

notified immediately of the panel's recommendation in respect of their application. However, the final decision as to the applicant's approval will be made by the Agency Decision Maker (ADM).

If applicants are unhappy with the ADM decision, they have a right of appeal, which can be made direct to the Agency, or via the Independent Review Mechanism within 28 days. If at any time during the assessment, the assessor feels the application falls short of the standards required, this will be discussed with the Registered Manager immediately. Any areas of shortfall will be fully explored and where training or support will not bring the applicant up to acceptable standards, the assessment will be stopped. The assessor will inform applicants of this decision and the reasons and a brief report will be presented to the fostering panel for their consideration.

### **Post Approval**

The applicants become known as newly approved carers and will receive written confirmation of their approval. In addition, they will receive a Foster Carer Agreement detailing their responsibilities, and the Agency's responsibilities, which must be signed by both parties. The Agency allocates a dedicated Supervising Social Worker to each fostering household. New carers attend an Induction course and Training, Support and Development Standards (TSDS) workshops to assist them completing their certification within the first 12 months post approval.

### **Annual Reviews**

Each fostering household will have an annual foster carer review, unless there are significant changes to their circumstances in which case, an earlier review will be conducted. This provides an opportunity for both the Agency and foster carers to reflect on the past year, and plan for the year ahead; this includes a full review of the individual carer's training and development needs, detailing any actions for the year ahead. Following approval, the carers' first review report is presented back to the Fostering Panel for their recommendations. All review recommendations are presented to the Agency Decision Maker for approval.



## Complaints

Ansacare takes all complaints seriously, and we aim to reflect and take appropriate actions to improve our practice wherever possible. To obtain a copy of our complaint procedure or to make a complaint please contact our office by telephone or in writing.

Full details of our Complaints Procedure can be obtained by emailing us [info@ansacare.com](mailto:info@ansacare.com)

If you wish to discuss a complaint or concern please contact us on **0203 747 4757**

### **Registered Agency Personnel:**

*Registered Manager – Mr Sajaad Chaudry*

*Responsible Individual – Mrs Ansa Chaudry*

## Ofsted

Any foster carer or a child/young person may choose to contact our regulator, Ofsted, directly regarding any complaint/allegation concerning the standard of service provided by a foster carer, or about the management of our service.

### **Ofsted National Business Unit**

Royal Exchange Buildings, Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street, Manchester

M1 2WD, Tel: 0300 123 1231 (General Enquiries)

Tel: 0300 123 4666 (About Concerns)

Email: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk) (General Enquiries)

Email: [CIE@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:CIE@ofsted.gov.uk) (About Concerns)

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This Statement of Purpose is reviewed and updated annually, or sooner if required.