



**The  
Fostering  
Network**

**Contact arrangements for  
fostered children:**  
learning from lockdown and  
moving forward

23 July 2020  
10:00 – 11.15 am

**Chairperson:**

Colin Turner  
Director for Wales

**Presenter:**

Natalie Silcox  
Associate Trainer

# Introduction

- The Fostering Network's response to lockdown
- Capturing the experiences and views of all those involved in fostering
- Responding to the needs of the sector
- Influencing change

## Webinar aims

- Challenges and benefits of contact arrangements during lockdown
- Issues arising from lockdown restrictions being eased
- Collaborative approach

# Agenda

- Contact during lockdown: how are children and their birth families keeping in touch?
- The Fostering Network's practice resources on contact
- Breakout sessions
- Feedback and questions

# Contact during lockdown: how are children and their birth families keeping in touch?

Beth Neil, Ruth Copson, Penny Sorensen

## Why the checklists?

- Inquiries to our member helpline and via our Practice Support Team
- Build on the work of the Nuffield Family Justice Observatory
- Sector requesting guidance on how to approach decisions around contact



## **Covid-19 contact arrangements:**

checklists for foster carer and fostering  
services

# Support for our members

The Fostering Network in Wales has a [member helpline](#):

## Fosterline Wales

- 9.30 -12.30 am Monday-Friday
- Tel: 0800 316 7664
- email: [fosterlinewales@fostering.net](mailto:fosterlinewales@fostering.net)

**Some enquiries we have received. . .**

# Covid-19 contact arrangements

Covid-19 contact arrangements: Foster carer checklist

<https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/sites/www.fostering.net/files/content/covid-19contactarrangementsocialworkerchecklist.pdf>

Covid-19 contact arrangements: Social worker checklist

<https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/sites/www.fostering.net/files/content/covid-19contactarrangementsfostercarerchecklist.pdf>

## Breakout sessions

1. What has been the benefits/challenges of contact during lockdown?
2. What are you addressing now in relation to contact as lockdown restrictions are easing?
3. What support do you feel you need in making these decisions?

# **Feedback and questions**

# Thank you

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