



Adoption
My Family
And Me



My name is.....

Adoption. Living with your adoptive family.

Everyone has a birth family. That is the family who cared for you after you were born.

Sometimes birth families cannot look after their children and keep them safe so you are now living with your forever family. This is your adoptive family.

Who is in your family?

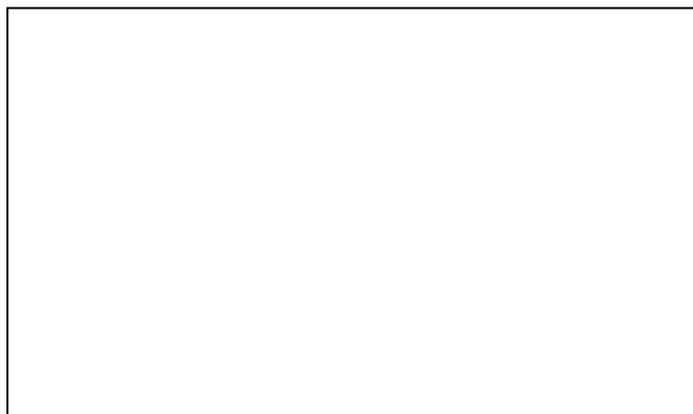
Even though your forever family are looking after you and will be there for you for life, you might be feeling different things about changing families. How are you feeling right now? About being adopted, about your family, about school, about yourself.

Can you write or draw something about your feelings?



Sometimes it is good to share feelings and worries.

Who will you talk to? Can you draw them here?



Adoption social workers from DFW can sometimes help children who have been adopted with their feelings and worries. Your social worker at DFW is called

Here is a picture.



It might take a little time for you to get to know them but they are really looking forward to meeting you and learning about you and your family.

There are lots of things that you might do with your DFW worker

Play

Talk

Draw

Paint

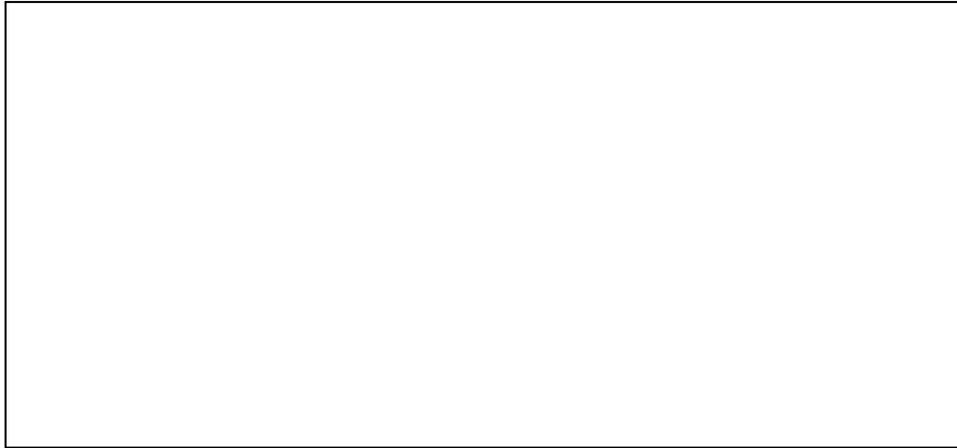
Sing

We might meet at the playroom here at our office. Here is a picture. It looks fun -do you think?



□

We might sometimes meet at your school. Can you draw a picture of your school? Who is your teacher?



We might meet at your home. Can you draw a picture of your house?



Sometimes we might need to talk to your parent or teacher to help them understand how we can help you with any worries or feelings you might have. We will always talk to you first.

You or your parents can talk to our manager if you want to. She is called Irene Redshaw. You can talk to Irene if you are unhappy about your worker or how they are trying to help you. You can ask your parent or teacher to help you contact her.

Her phone number is 0191 386 3719

Her email address is Irene.redshaw@dfw.org.uk

Her postal address is DFW Adoption, Agriculture House, Stonebridge, Durham DH1 3RY



You might also want to make sure that everyone here at DFW Adoption is doing everything right for you. You can find out by contacting the people at OFSTED.

You can write to them at

OFSTED, Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD

Or you can telephone on 0300 123 1231

It is very important that you are listened to and to know your rights you can also contact:

The Children's Commissioner for England, The Office of the Children's Commissioner, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT

You can telephone on 020 7783 8330

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

If you haven't been adopted yet, you will have a social worker and an Independent Reviewing Officer visiting you from time to time

Your social worker is

Their telephone number is

Your Independent Reviewing Officer is

Their telephone number is

Any of the people mentioned on this page can help you make sure you are listened to and will help you get an independent person if you want one to make sure your rights and feelings are considered properly.

This is your page to write down anything you wish to or to put a photograph on.