

Statement of Purpose

Part of the Next Step Fostering Group



The Fostering Services Regulations (England) 2011:	Reg 3(1)a,b
Relevant NMS:	16

Since 2002, Ryancare has been committed to providing the best possible outcomes for children in care through its various services. The agency changed ownership and was purchased by Next Step Fostering Services Limited, Faversham, Kent on the 1st October 2008. In January 2014, Next Step Fostering purchased Safe Houses, another Outstanding Fostering agency. Together the three agencies are known as "The Next Step Fostering Group".

Ryancare continues to provide high quality fostering services, making positive, nurturing foster placements with professional foster families. Ryancare provides foster carers with professional support, monitoring and training that is creative, comprehensive, regular and personalised, Ryancare aims to provide a complete fostering service, tuned to both the needs of young people and their foster families. In order to achieve this, the agency seeks feedback from all stakeholders to inform the ongoing development of the service.

Ryancare is a child centred agency and we promote those individuals to be foster carers, who have a child's interest firmly at heart. We ask that our carers have the insight and skills to develop their foster care to meet the required standards of professional excellence.

Ryancare recognises that many of the children we look after will not be able to live within their birth families for much of their childhood and therefore we aim for our families to facilitate contact in a positive professional yet sensitive manner, to ensure family bonds can be sensitively maintained.

The Purpose:

To give young people in care the stable, nurturing childhood they deserve, so they may grow into confident, positive members of society.

The Business:

Recruiting, training and supporting professional foster carers who are committed to providing young people with positive, nurturing family homes and positive childhood experiences.

The Values:

Working with honesty, respect, understanding, Integrity, dedication and compassion, all children should be treated as individuals and supported to achieve their full potential. The service enables stakeholder feedback through the Children's Champion role, foster carer consultation groups, staff meetings and attendance at provider events hosted by local authority customers. The service uses its feedback to continue to improve.

The Services:

To ensure the agency provides the best services possible to the young people it looks after, we offer a range of support services to complement the core fostering task. These include a counsellor for foster carers, a Children's Champion to provide advocacy and activities to young people, including the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, parent and child fostering, children with disabilities fostering and fostering for unaccompanied asylum seekers as well as a comprehensive training portfolio to cover those services and the broader remit of the fostering task.

Date of Policy review:

18/06/13 (DL and SMT members GS, NJM, LAW – Amendments made by LAB)

27/08/13 (DL and SMT members RJS, NJM, LAW – Amendments made by LAB)

16/09/13 (DL, LAW, RJS. Amendments made LAB).

6/11/13 DL

9/6/14 DL

30/09/14 DL

15/09/15 NM and DL

04/05/17 (DL – Amendments made by LAT)

05/05/17 Amendments made by BB)