

Argyll and Bute Council ~ Adoption Service

Aims and Objectives

Statement of Purpose

Argyll and Bute Council's Adoption Service is managed by the Family Placement Team as part of the council's social work service for children and families. The Adoption Service exists to recruit, assess, train and support adopters who are able to provide loving, stable, permanent families for children who are unable to grow-up in their birth family for a variety of reasons.

The vision of the Scottish Government is that children should be valued by ensuring that they are safe; achieving; active; nurtured; respected; responsible and included; these tenets provide a basis for the practice of Argyll and Bute's Adoption Service as a whole. Furthermore, the Adoption Service is committed to recognising the rights of all children to grow up in a loving family environment as stated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) Act, Scotland, 2024.

The Adoption Service is committed to continuous improvement and best practice, in order to promote the most positive outcomes for children and young people.

Aims of the Adoption Service

- Provision of loving, secure and stable adoptive families providing opportunities for children and young people to grow, develop and realise their unique potential.
- Promotion of the protection and safe care of children and young people who require permanent substitute families by way of adoption.

- To ensure that adopters and their families are motivated, trained, skilled and supported to meet the needs of children they adopt.
- To respond promptly to recruitment enquiries by providing clear information about training, assessment, approval and support.
- To regard birth families fairly, openly and with respect when their children require to be looked after permanently away from their birth family.
- To promote the rights of children and young people to maintain connections with significant people in their lives, including former foster carers and birth family members.
- To promote the rights of children and young people to stay in touch with their siblings when it is safe for them to do so, as promoted by the Scottish Government's #KeepThePromise.

Objectives of the Adoption Service

- To ensure that the service provided to children, adopters, birth parents and families meets the legislative requirements and the Health and Social Care Standards for Adoption Services.
- To ensure preparation, training and assessment of adopters is trauma-informed to develop their abilities leading to the best possible outcomes for children and young people.
- Provision of quality support both before and after adoption that promotes cohesiveness and stability for children with their adoptive family.
- To consult on the quality of the service and use feedback to inform development.
- To promote the participation of children, young people, their families and adopters in service development.