

# Sandwell Foster Carers

19 JUNE 2020

Welcome to your weekly newsletter!

I hope that you've had a good week. It's hard to believe that we are already more than half way through the month of June, the time is flying by!

## Virtual School updates

As you can imagine, our colleagues in the Virtual School have been very busy preparing for children to return to school whilst also ensuring the 'new day to day' business of learning for our children and young people.

Executive Head, Balwant Bains has sent us some excellent information this week that we have uploaded to your internet resource pages. These include a letter from the Virtual School, details of the Young Artist 2020 competition and a document regarding 'Britannica Introduction for Carers'. Please take a few moments to read these documents as they are full of useful and up to date information.

## Year 6 Transitions newsletter

I'm not sure if you've seen it yet but we've also uploaded the latest [Year 6 Transitions newsletter](#) to our website. It has information for young people moving to secondary school in September which I'm sure they will find helpful.

## Black Lives Matter

We're conscious that it may be difficult for some children and young people to understand what is happening in the news and how to manage their feelings as an outcome of what they see and hear. In an effort to help, we have uploaded a document to our website for you to discuss with children and young people: Black Lives Matter Newsletter for Children and Young People.

## Virtual Fostering Forum

I will provide you with an update next week following our first virtual fostering forum. If you haven't been involved in the first meeting it's not too late to contact us and get involved in future meetings. We would love to hear from you. Please [email](#) us and we will send you an invitation.

## Mind of my Own

I was reminded this week of what an excellent resource 'Mind of my Own' is for children and young people. It's so easy to use and is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At a time when it is difficult to have face to face contact, this provides an immediate solution for children and young people to tell us what is on their mind.

You will be pleased to hear that the app has recently been refreshed and can now be used by children and young people where English is not their first language. By clicking on the 'accessibility' button on the first page, they can choose the language they understand. Even better news is that when we receive the child's statement, it is automatically translated into English!

If any of the children and young people in your care haven't yet signed up, please encourage them to do so. Your enthusiasm will encourage them to be enthusiastic too! To download the app go via Google or the App Store or online [mindofmyown.org.uk](http://mindofmyown.org.uk)

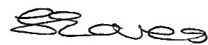
## Fostering Marketing Campaign

Our new campaign is finally here! If you've spotted our new adverts already, I'm sure that you'll agree that we definitely need more 'superheroes' like you!! If you're yet to see it, look out for us across Sandwell on the JC Decaux boards from this week and outside Sainsbury's and Asda from next week.

We are always looking at new ways of recruiting foster carers so if you have any ideas that you would like to share with us, please [let us know](#), we would love to hear from you.



I hope you have a good week and I look forward to updating you again next week.  
Take care and stay safe.



**Shanti Eaves**  
**Head of Service, Children in Care, Care Leavers and Fostering**

**DON'T FORGET TO CONTACT US! IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER!**

This is your newsletter, so do you know about any great fostering resources, or perhaps just an article or web link you want to share? Anything that could be useful to fellow foster carers – we'll help you let them know. Or if you have an idea, comment or request about fostering in general or what should be in your newsletter, contact your allocated Supervising Social Worker or email us at

[Fostering\\_Info@sandwellchildrenstrust.org](mailto:Fostering_Info@sandwellchildrenstrust.org)

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