

The Fostering Information Exchange

Fostering Information Exchange

What is the Fostering Information Exchange?

The Fostering Information Exchange (FIE) has been developed for the sector by the sector. It is a place where everyone involved in or interested in foster care can:

- share practice
- explore ideas
- discuss issues and new developments
- access resources.

Who is the Fostering Information Exchange for?

The Fostering Information Exchange is for everyone with an interest in or a connection to fostering, including:

- foster carers
- social workers
- prospective foster carers
- researchers
- fostering service providers
- policy makers
- training and development staff

What does the Fostering Information Exchange offer?

Discussion forums – share thoughts and good practice or ask for advice and practical solutions.

Discussion topics include:

- *Assessment and approval*
- *Delegated authority*
- *Education of looked after children*
- *Recruitment*
- *Retention*
- *Return home from care*
- *Training and support.*

A library – share reports, research, presentations, videos and images.

Blogs – reflect on your experiences and what you've learnt, and share your opinions.

Events listings – see forthcoming events and promote your own events, training sessions and workshops.

Connections – connect with other Knowledge Hub or FIE group members and follow their activity.

Instant and Direct messaging – easily send messages to other registered Knowledge Hub members.

Email notifications – set up regular e-alerts for your chosen groups, connections, messages and individual content items.

Social media links – link your profile to other social network accounts you might have, eg Twitter, LinkedIn.

Personalised homepage – access everything via your activity streams on your homepage. It's personalised to you depending on who you're connected to, which groups you join and which conversations you've contributed to.

A search function – find what you're looking for quickly and easily, plus the information can also find you based on your profile and activity.

How to join the Fostering Information Exchange

The Fostering Information Exchange is a group on the Local Government Association's Knowledge Hub – a secure online knowledge sharing platform which enables users to create connections and share learning, experiences and ideas. Follow these steps to join the group:

1. Go to Knowledge Hub — <https://knowledgehub.local.gov.uk>
2. Register for an account and then activate your account via the link in the email you'll be sent
3. Log in to Knowledge Hub using your new account details
4. Click Groups and then search Fostering Information Exchange
5. Apply to join — once accepted you can start using the FIE.

The Fostering Information Exchange has been developed by a partnership involving these organisations:

Supported by



the fostering network
the voice of foster care

