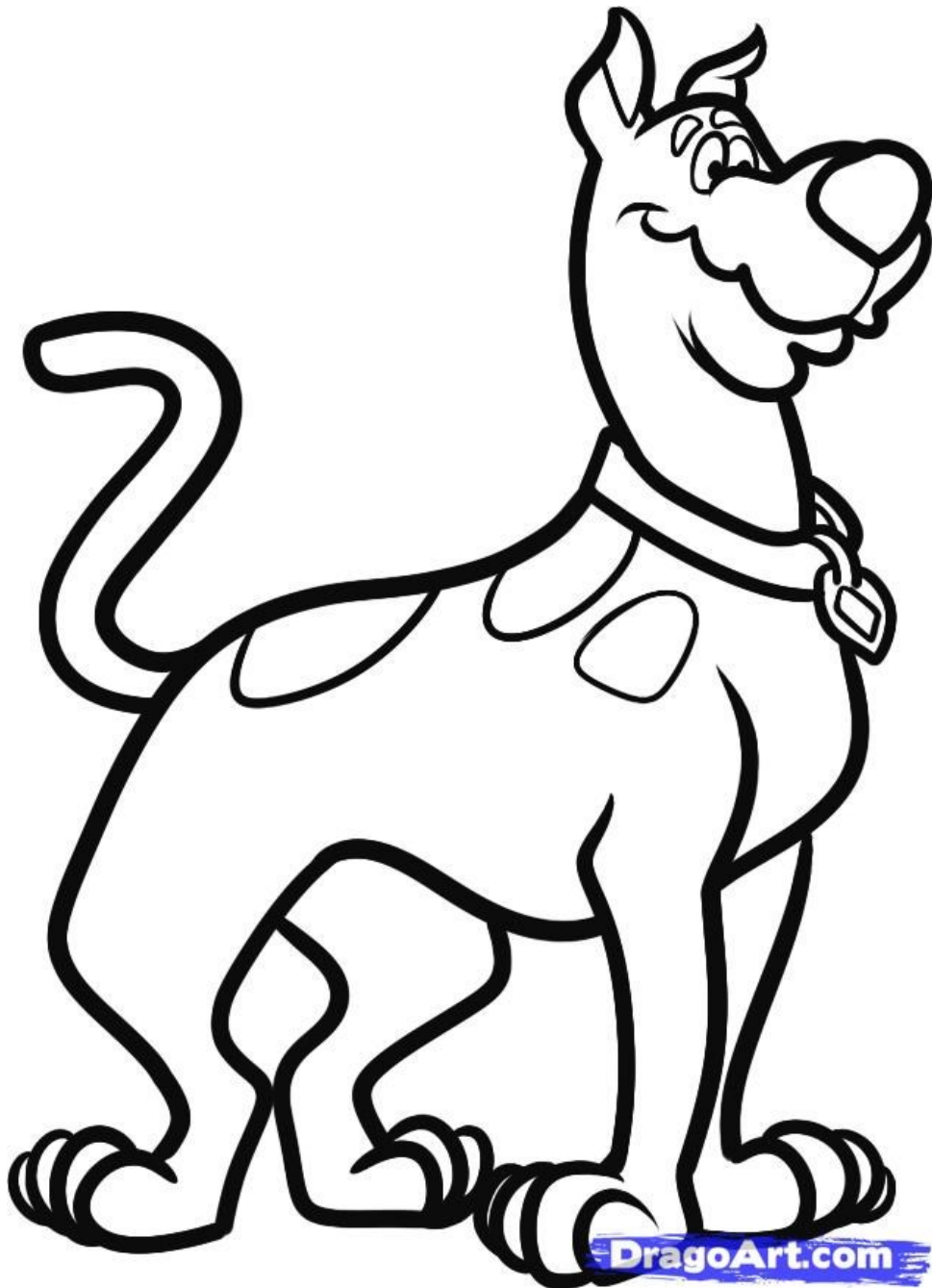


Here's a page for you to colour



Family Fostering

A Guide To Foster Care for Birth Children

I'm Scooby and I'm here to tell you all about being part of a foster family.

This Booklet is yours to keep and use whenever you want to find something out.



This booklet belongs to _____

Welcome to Family Fostering

This booklet is yours to keep and we hope you find it helpful. It has lots of information that you might need. If you need any help reading or understanding it please let us know.

Meet the Team



Hi, I'm
Debi Atkin I'm the Registered
Manager



Hello, I'm
Teresa Morgan. I'm the Service
Manager



Hello, I'm Tracy Bennett. I'm a
Supervising Social Worker

Who is there to help and support me?

Write down their full names, telephone numbers
and email addresses.

My Family's Supervising Social Worker

.....
.....



Here are some organisations that help children and young people.

[ChildLine - 24 hour helpline for children in distress](#)

0800 1111 (free phone) / www.childline.org.uk

[Coram Voice - Advice and support for children in care](#)

0808 800 5792 (free phone) / coramvoice.org.uk

Always Heard Email: help@coramvoice.org.uk,

[The Children's Commissioner for England - Advice and help for Children in care or living away from home](#)

Sanctuary Buildings

20 Great Smith Street

London SW1P 3BT

020 7783 8330 / www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk



Hi, I'm Chantelle Lacey. I'm a Supervising Social Worker



Hi, I'm Krista McAllister. I'm the Office Manager.



Hi, I'm Lauren Hollands. I'm the Administrative Assistant.



Hi, I'm Aimee-Leigh Delo. I'm the Children's Champion.

What is a foster family?

Sharing your home with other children who are unable to live with their own family is not always easy. Living with someone that you don't know can be hard while you get to know them and they get to know you. Children who are unable to live with their own family often struggle with new rules and boundaries. They may struggle with their behaviour and may need extra help and support. They can also be lots of fun and it can be good having them to play with.

What is Foster Care?

Over 64,000 children and young people live with foster carers in the UK. There are lots of reasons why young people cannot live with their own family. When this happens they usually move to foster care to make sure they are looked after and kept safe.

You can also talk to Ofsted who are in charge of all Fostering Services and follow up all complaints

Ofsted

**Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services
& Skills**

Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester M1 2WD

0300 123 1231 / enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

www.ofsted.gov.uk



What if I have a problem or I am unhappy?

We know that it's not easy having someone new move in with a new family and we will do all we can to help make sure you feel safe, happy and well cared for.

If you are worried about anything you can contact Teresa who will always listen and try to help you 😊

Teresa Morgan – Children's Officer

Tel: 01843 598647

Mobile: 07815532569

Visit or write to us at:

Family Fostering
The Marlowe Innovation Centre
Marlowe Way
Ramsgate
Kent CT12 6FA

What about what I want?

Your wishes and feeling are very important. Make sure you tell your parents or supervising social worker what you would like to happen and how you are feeling.

What is a foster family?

Foster Families have been carefully chosen to look after children. They do all the things that birth parents should do, such as keeping them safe, making sure they eat healthily, setting rules, providing lots of activities and helping with things like going to school and attending health checks.

How will another child be looked after in my home?

There are certain ways every child should be treated no matter what; these are called 'rights':

All children have the right

- to be safe, secure and protected
- to be listened to and treated fairly and equally
- to information/advice, healthcare and education
- to enjoy their religion and culture
- to have help with any disability they may have



Who decides what will happen?

When a young person first moves into your family home a meeting will be held to make a plan. Sometimes children only stay for a day or two and sometimes they stay for much longer and can even stay until they become adults and move into their own place.

What does my family's social worker do?

Every foster family has their own social worker, they are called supervising social workers. It is their job to provide support and guidance to ensure they are looking after all the young people in the home, including you! They provide support for all the family when it is needed. They will visit your home at least once a month and will want to meet with you from time to time to make sure you are happy and well cared for. You can also contact them if you need additional support at any time.

What will be expected from me?

A lot!

Having another child or young person come to live with you will change your way of life. Although your parent/s will be responsible for the children who come to stay you will be involved in helping to make them feel comfortable in your home.

You may find it very difficult at times. Try to remember that it is very difficult for the child or young person too. They are away from their home, family and friends. You can make a real difference; if you are friendly and kind this will help them feel welcomed.

Being part of a foster family can also be a lot of fun. You will get to meet lots of new people. Family Fostering arranges lots of fun activities for you and your family.