

Different Ways of having a Home

Residential Care

Residential care is care in a Children's Home. A Looked After Child will live with other children in a residential home where Trust Staff will care for them.

Adoption

Adoption is the legal process by which a child or a group of siblings become full, permanent and legal members of their new family.



Contact Details

**Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Looked After Children's Teams**

Armagh LAC Team

**Lisanally House, Armagh
02837 564003**

Dungannon LAC Team

**Lisanally House, Armagh
02837 564069**

Craigavon LAC Team

**Brownlow House, Craigavon
02837 569369**

Newry LAC Team

**Canal House, Newry
02830 832252**

Office Hours are Monday to Friday 9-5



What is a Looked After Children's (LAC) Team

A child and family will be transferred to the Looked After Children (LAC) Team when a group of professionals at a LAC meeting have agreed that rehabilitation to parental care for the child is no longer achievable.

The main purpose of the Looked After Children's (LAC) teams are to ensure a Looked After Child gets the best support and care possible.

The LAC team work in partnership with the child or young person, parents, carers, health professionals, Teachers and others to ensure all the child or young person's needs are being met.

There are four Looked After Teams in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust, covering Armagh, Craigavon, Dungannon and Newry areas.



What is a Looked After Child (LAC) Review

The purpose of a LAC Review is to discuss the child's care plan, that is the plan for the child or young person moving forward.

A report is written in partnership with the child and their family and shared with them, their parents, foster carers and other significant people. The LAC review provides an opportunity for everyone involved in a child or young person's life to express their views and discuss how their needs will be best met over a six month period.

The LAC team also works in partnership with parents through promoting "family time" as agreed by the Court. This is reviewed at each LAC review meeting and changes to family time can be made.



Different Ways of having a Home

When a child becomes looked after by the Trust there are different ways this can happen;

- **Kinship Care**
Kinship care is when a child lives full-time or most of the time with a relative or friend who isn't their parent.

- **Foster Care**
Foster placements can be short term or long term with a family that the Trust have identified as safe and caring match for the child. They can provide a child with a stable home through to adulthood.

