

Briefing report - Adoption Activity Day 5 October 2014

Children who attended

Lancashire facilitated their last Adoption Activity Day on 5 October 2014 and 27 of our children attended. Of these children there were five sibling groups of two, two sibling groups of three, six children with significant health needs, four children with behavioural difficulties and one child from BME background.

Outcomes re matching and linking

Child P Age 1 year 1 month – matched at the event

Child M Age 3 years – matched at the event

Child S - Age 5 years – matched at the event

Child T - Age 10 months – matched at the event

Sibling group A & R - Ages 3 years and 2 years 2 months – matched at event

Single adopter interest in sibling group J, J & A - Ages 6, 4 & 5 – matched at event

Single adopter interest in sibling group H, D & M - Ages 8, 6 and 4 years – matched at event

Sibling adopters interest in sibling group S & Z Ages 4 & 6 – matched at event

A further eight of the children that attended the event have now been matched with families through various family finding strategies.

Children not matched or linked

There are two children aged 4 and 6 who were not selected at the Activity Day event, and have not yet been matched with adopters, because of their specific needs they only have a limited understanding of the purpose of Activity Days.

These children were fully prepared prior to the event, with the emphasis on having a fun day and maybe playing with grownups who wanted to be "mummies and daddies". They have some understanding that the special family we are looking for were not at the event. They have been supported after the event by their foster carers and followed up by social workers during their visits. It does not appear to have had a negative impact on them and it was evident they did have fun on the day. The other children at the event who were not matched were very young. The feedback from the foster carers of these children is that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves, had lots of fun and enjoyed the different activities on offer throughout the day. There has not been any negative feedback from any foster carers or social workers on children where there are no matches progressing. The children's emotional well being continues to be monitored.

Overall a successful event was achieved where there was lots of fun for all the children and it resulted in families being identified for 14 of our harder to place children.

This event was attended by County Councillor Ian Brown who has fed back that despite his initial concerns regarding the welfare of the children, he felt the event was well managed and a positive event for the children involved who appeared to have lots of fun.

The next planned event for Lancashire is on the 11 July 2015.

Jane Gray / Claire Johnson
Team Manager
Children Awaiting Adoption Team

18 December 2015