

What is Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool?

- Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool is a Regional Adoption Agency.
- Regional Adoption Agencies were created by the government saying that Local Authorities needed to join their adoption service.
- Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council came together and formed Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool in April 2020

What does Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool do?

- Recruitment and approval of adopters including Early Permanence Adopters
- Support to adopters up to the making of the child's Adoption Order
- Family finding for children
- Adoption Support to adopters pre and post Adoption Order, this includes universal support to all adopters and undertaken adoption assessments as requested by adopters.
- Counselling to birth parents
- Support for adoptees accessing their adoptive records.

What are Lancashire & Blackpool responsible for in Adoption?

- Responsible for the child pre-adoption order
- Responsible for the provision of services to the adoptive child and their families if not related to adoption

Why does Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool complete a 6 monthly report?

Adoption National Minimum Standards state

- that a 6 monthly report is presented to the Corporate Parenting Board
- which reports on the management, outcomes for children/other service users and financial state of adoption

So, what does the report say?

Management of Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool

- Managed by a board made up of directors and senior managers in both local authorities, adopters and the senior manager for Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool
- Board is bi monthly- strategic management of Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool
- Operations meeting – monthly looks at the practice with Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool and both local authorities
- Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool managed through Lancashire as host

How many children were adopted?

- Lancashire had 20 children adopted- this reflects the decreasing number of children having adoption as their care plan
- Blackpool had 21 children adopted- this is more than whole of last year and is because children in adoptive homes are now achieving their adoption orders

How many children placed for adoption?

- Lancashire had 16 children move into adoptive homes
- Blackpool had 12 children move into adoptive homes

How many children had Placement Orders made?

Placement Orders give the local authority the power to place a child in an adoptive home

- Lancashire had 23 children who had adoption plans approved by the court
- Blackpool had 14 children who had adoption plans approved by the court

Why are the figures different?

Placement Orders are made over the whole period as are children placed with their adoptive parents. So, there is often a mismatch between the numbers. However unfortunately Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool can struggle to find adoptive homes and because of this some of our children can wait longer to be found a home.

How many adopters were approved?

- 31 Adopters were approved in the period

Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool try to recruit a range of adopters which meet the needs of children requiring homes.

Trends in children requiring adoptive homes.

- 54% of all children were part of a brother/sister group - this is going up.

Lancashire

- 61% of children in were female
- 44% of children aged under 1
- 13% of children aged 1-4
- 39% of children aged 5-9
- 4% of children 10-15

The children requiring adoptive homes are getting older due to being part of brother/sister groups

Blackpool

- 57% of children male
- 29% of children aged under 1
- 64% of children aged 1-4
- 7% of children aged 5-9

Blackpool always had more children under one this has decreased whilst 1-4 years has increased and now biggest group.

Any questions?