

**EDUCATION ON
TRACK**

TRAUMA RELATIONSHIPS ATTACHMENT CARE KNOWLEDGE



**A QUICK GUIDE TO THE
EDUCATION TEAM**



Who are the Education Team

The Education Team are part of the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) and is formed through a collaboration with the four Virtual Schools in our region – Derbyshire, Derby City, Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City. The wider offer is overseen through regular collaborative management between the four Virtual Schools and Adoption East Midlands (AEM).

We are all adopters with lived experience for caring for adoptive children, as well as experienced teachers in both a primary and secondary settings.



Ali Hird – Education Support Worker, Experienced Adopter and Experienced Primary School Teacher

Grace Ingleton – Education Support Worker, experienced Adopter and experienced Secondary School Teacher

Abi Lakin – Education Support Worker, experienced Adopter and experienced Primary School Teacher

Our Values

We believe that the support we offer you needs to be trauma informed, focuses on children's attachment needs and has relationships between parents, children, and school at its core. We will provide you with the care and knowledge to empower you to confidently work with schools to make a positive difference for our young people, and to build resilience and determination to navigate their education journey with them. Our Education 'on TRACK' logo is our way of illustrating our core values, these are:

Trauma

Relationships

Attachment

Care

Knowledge

Having these core values is essential for achieving our vision, which will enable us to make the right decisions for your child and ensure that they are provided with the relevant educational support.

Education on TRACK Support Desk



We know that education settings can pose many challenges for adopted children and young people, and subsequently their families. We will be available on a Tuesday and a Thursday to offer scheduled support sessions, where you will be able to discuss the challenges your child is experiencing in school, and explore these using a trauma informed approach (access to this is determined by your level of need).

Our four Virtual Schools are working alongside us, and we are collaborating to support a single point of access for adopted children via the AEM education team. The statutory role of the Virtual School is for previously looked-after children is 'to promote their educational achievement through the provision of information and advice to their parents, educators and others who the Virtual School Head (VSH) considers necessary'. We will signpost you to the Virtual School in your area if we think they can support your child/ren's school. The key roles of the Virtual Schools in our collaboration are:



To collaborate with AEM in producing and delivering a training offer for families.



Participation in management of the education project as part of the wider AEM Multi-Disciplinary Team.



Offer advice and information to providers of early education, designated teachers in schools and providers of alternative provision. Also improve awareness of the vulnerability and needs of previously looked-after children through training and support for schools. This includes promoting good practice on identifying and meeting children's needs and guidance on effective use of pupil premium funding.



If you would like to contact our Virtual Schools direct, please see the following contact details:

Nottinghamshire: virtualschooladvice@nottscg.gov.uk - 0115 804 4677

Derbyshire: virtualschool@derbyshire.gov.uk - 01629 538028

Nottingham City: thevirtualschool@nottinghamcity.gov.uk - 0115 876 4692

Derby City: virtualschool@derby.gov.uk - 01332 640342

Our Training Offer

Access to the right information in education is the most important way we can empower you and your child in your education journey. To support you with this, we have prioritised training in the following areas to be delivered throughout 2024.



Transitions Workshop

Transitions in education can be overwhelming and extremely challenging for adopted children. This workshop will focus on why transitions are important and discusses how parents and carers can work with schools to ensure their child has a personalised plan in place that will enable them to feel safe, secure and able to access learning.

SEND Workshop

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

This workshop will be designed to provide key information about your local education offer and support your understanding of Graduated Response in your area. For your local offer please see the following links:

Nottingham City: [Special Education Needs & Disabilities Local Offer](#) | [Ask Lion - Nottingham City Directory](#)

Nottinghamshire: [Nottshelpyourself](#) | [SEND Local Offer](#)

Derby City: [Derby's SEND Local Offer - Derby City Council](#)

Derbyshire: [Home - Derbyshire Local Offer](#)

Peer Support Drop-in Sessions

Our Education Co-Production group have highlighted the importance of peer support in education. In the future we hope that we will be able to provide more opportunities for families to access peer support in your local area.

On TRACK Handbook

We are working on a selection of helpful, practical advice and guidance resources that we will make available to you throughout

the year. These will form your bespoke Education On TRACK handbook.

Available Training

AEM Adoption and Education Workshop are advertised on the [AEM Support Hub](#).

For families in Nottinghamshire there are several training opportunities available via the Nottinghamshire Virtual School which you can book into via the website.



We are excited to bring a free conference to our parents and carers of previously Looked After Children, which includes adopters and kinship carers.

[Parents and guardians of children previously in care | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)



The whole landscape associated with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in the UK has recently changed, and in the next couple of years, it is likely that more children and young people in our schools and care systems will be identified with FASD. This will have implications for everyone working with children and young people.

[FASD – Derby City](#)





Risk of Family Breakdown

We understand that when things go wrong in school, this can have a significant impact on children, young people, and their families at home. We will provide short term advocacy for families who are at risk of family breakdown and where education is a significant factor. We will contact you and your child's school (which may include other professionals) and facilitate meetings and discussions.

Get in Touch

If you require support with your child's educational needs, we will ask you to fill out our [education on TRACK referral form](#). This will enable us to understand your needs in the fastest way possible. We will read the information you have sent and get back in touch with you with information about how we think we can help.

We know that for some families, where there is significant stress, completing a form can feel like a barrier. If you are feeling like this, please contact us on the above email and we will organise a time with you to talk through the form.

If you have a support needs in education, please contact us on the following email:

education@adoptioneastmidlands.nottscg.gov.uk