

Service Provision	Focus of Service											Delivery of service						Contact details		
	Virtual School	Educational Attainment	Transition	Behaviour	Mental Health	Attachment	Social and Emotional Understanding	Peer Relationships	Family Relationships	Place-ment Stability	Other	Provided for	Level of provision	Tailored to needs of individuals or families?	Developed in collaboration with foster carers and/or CLA?	Provided by	Professionals involved			
<b>Foster Carers:</b>																				
<b>CONFERENCES</b>																				
Annual Education Conference for foster carers shared with a neighbouring local authority.	Bath/ N-E Somerset	X				X	X							Foster carers and adopter parents	No	Yes	Virtual School, Other service providers in LA and from another LA	Social Workers and Local University Lecturers	<a href="mailto:Michael.Gorman@bathnes.gov.uk">Michael.Gorman@bathnes.gov.uk</a>	
Foster carers are represented on all steering groups to plan VS annual events i.e. Annual Celebration of Achievement event & Annual Education Matters Conference.	Norfolk																		<a href="mailto:tricia.ciappara@norfolk.gov.uk">tricia.ciappara@norfolk.gov.uk</a>	
<b>ATTACHMENT, MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIOUR</b>																				
LAC Development Days' : Multi- professional for foster carers, social workers, DTs etc - every 6 to 9 months often on topics relating to mental health, attachment, avoidance of placement breakdown etc.	Enfield	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Foster carers, Social Workers, DTs etc (multi-agency)	Individual families	Yes	No	Virtual School directly and other service providers in LA	VS staff, CAMHS colleagues, EPs, Social Workers.	<a href="mailto:jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk">jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk</a>
The Health and Wellbeing Service (a partner agency that the VS works closely with) provide consultations for carers to help them better understand the reasons behind some looked-after children's behaviours. School staff, VS staff, carers and children's and fostering social workers are invited to attend.	Worcestershire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Foster carers	Individual families	Yes	No	Other service providers within the LA		<a href="mailto:eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk">eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk</a>
Work with foster carers on relationship based play, based on Theraplay principles. [Theraplay is a form of focussed play therapy designed to enhance attachments between parents and children].	Worcestershire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				CLA and foster carers	Bespoke according to need	Yes	No	VS directly	VS staff	<a href="mailto:eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk">eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk</a>
A comprehensive training with the Educational Psychology Service with regards to trauma and attachment.	Haringey			X	X	X													<a href="mailto:tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk">tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk</a>	
Ongoing support for foster carers provided by a part time Educational Psychologist and Primary Mental Health worker employed by the VS.	Brighton	X	X	X	X	X								Foster carers	Groups of foster carers	No	No	Other service providers within the LA	EP and Primary Mental Health Worker	<a href="mailto:robert.caddick@brighton-hove.gov.uk">robert.caddick@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>
VSH line manages one 0.5 CAMHS Practitioner/Psychotherapist post in the CAMHS team dedicated to working with foster carers to prevent placement breakdown.	Enfield	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				CLA, foster carers only or whole family	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	CAMHS Mental Health practitioner/ psychotherapist; EPs	<a href="mailto:jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk">jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk</a>
Fostering and VS Teams provide an adapted 8 week training programme tailored to meet carers' needs based on the principles of Webster Stratton but including aspects from Attachment for Foster Carers (BAAF publication) and Fostering Changes (BAAF publication).	Wigan		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Foster carers	Groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	VS staff and social care staff from the fostering team	<a href="mailto:m.amberry@wigan.gov.uk">m.amberry@wigan.gov.uk</a>
Pilot run by Sunderland University to encourage attachment friendly schools; new website hub to support carers and professionals	Sunderland					X	X							Individuals	Individual carers	No	Yes	Other service providers within the LA	Sunderland University	<a href="mailto:dawn.shearsmith@sunderland.gov.uk">dawn.shearsmith@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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<b>Foster Carers:</b>																			
<b>INDIVIDUAL FOSTER CARER SUPPORT, ADVICE &amp; INFORMATION</b>																			
Individual support and feedback to carers through PEP meetings, LAC reviews, phone calls, TAC meetings. Liaison with family placement team.	South Gloucestershire	X	X	X			X	X					LAC, looked-after sibling groups and foster carers	Individual families	Yes	Yes	VS directly		<a href="mailto:io.hiam@southglos.gov.uk">io.hiam@southglos.gov.uk</a>
Bespoke support to foster carers on a daily basis through case work and liaison with social workers.	Croydon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				LAC and foster carers	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly		<a href="mailto:sairah.shah@croydon.gov.uk">sairah.shah@croydon.gov.uk</a>
Home visits, telephone contact and meeting attendance. Frequency depending upon need.	Worcestershire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					LAC and foster carers	Bespoke according to need	Yes	No	VS directly		<a href="mailto:eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk">eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk</a>
Support directly to and for carers provided by a team of Social Workers (link workers)	Bolton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Foster carers	Individual and groups of families	Yes	Yes	Other service providers within the LA	Social workers	<a href="mailto:bob.horrocks@bolton.gov.uk">bob.horrocks@bolton.gov.uk</a>
LACES workers liaise with foster carers to arrange PEP and other school meetings and provide post meeting feedback as necessary. Ongoing support and advice in relation to maintaining positive school placements and promoting achievement is provided through these meetings and visits to foster carers in placement.	Solihull	X	X	X			X	X					Foster carers and PEPs/ general LACES support for all professionals involved with LAC	Individual families	Yes	No	VS directly		<a href="mailto:lcameron@solihull.gov.uk">lcameron@solihull.gov.uk</a>
Range of support to foster carers from VS - advisory, PEP meetings, information in newsletters.	Luton	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			Foster carers; Whole family	Individual families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	EP, Behaviour team, SEN team, outside speakers	<a href="mailto:Rosalind.paul@luton.gov.uk">Rosalind.paul@luton.gov.uk</a>
<b>TRAINING - EDUCATIONAL and OTHER ISSUES</b>																			
VS training for Social Workers and Carers : beyond statutory training, covering education, how children learn, how schools work etc. Training and information days on a range of subjects- contributing at PEP meetings, applying to colleges, apprenticeships etc. Social workers (link workers) who support carers run statutory carer training and commission further training as required - for example training from the Virtual School.	Bolton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Foster carers and Social Workers	Groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	Social workers, schools, EPs, partner agencies	<a href="mailto:bob.horrocks@bolton.gov.uk">bob.horrocks@bolton.gov.uk</a>

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<b>Foster Carers:</b> Foster carers training entitled 'Promoting the education of children looked after' offered a whole day once a term. Carers along with young people helped design & devise training programme. Foster carers are also invited to participate in multi agency PEP training along with IROs, social workers and DTs - half day sessions every six months.	Norfolk	X	X				X					Improve compliance with PEPs: improve multi-agency working and relationships	Foster carers, Social Workers, DTs and IROs	Groups of families (foster carer training); multi-agency for PEP training	No	Yes (for the specific foster carers training)	VS directly	Foster carer training: VS Deputy Head, Post 16 Advisor, Specialist support Asst & Foster carer co-trainer. PEP training: VS Deputy Head	<a href="mailto:tricia.ciappara@norfolk.gov.uk">tricia.ciappara@norfolk.gov.uk</a>
Number of multi agency training events focusing on education attainment, admissions and exclusions, trauma recovery, supporting transitions. The foster service also have a comprehensive training programme and the VS is linked into the fostering network in the borough and provides additional help and support.	Haringey	X	X				X	X				Foster carers							<a href="mailto:tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk">tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk</a>
VS staff regularly train foster carers through the training offer of the Fostering/Adoption Department. These are usually held termly and led by the Officers in the VS on a variety of themes to support looked-after children in their education	Croydon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Foster carers	Groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	VS officers, Caseworkers, Mentors, Social Workers, External Agencies	<a href="mailto:sairah.shah@croydon.gov.uk">sairah.shah@croydon.gov.uk</a>	
Training on education support	Worcestershire	X	X									Foster carers	Bespoke according to need						<a href="mailto:eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk">eballard@worcestershire.gov.uk</a>
Two sessions delivered each year to support foster carers have a better understanding about how they can support the education of looked-after children as well as an annual training event.	Bracknell Forest	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		LAC, looked-after sibling groups, whole family and professionals	Individual families, groups of families and service areas	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	VS staff, Educational Psychology, Social Care staff	<a href="mailto:kashif.nawaz@bracknell-forest.gov.uk">kashif.nawaz@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</a>	
Training and update training provided to foster carers around education. Offered three times a year. Duration approximately 2 hours.	Swindon	X	X	X	X		X					Foster carers	Groups of families	Yes	No	VS directly	Advisory teachers	<a href="mailto:kpakenham@swindon.gov.uk">kpakenham@swindon.gov.uk</a>	
Training - twice a term with additional training on reading with children at home	West Sussex	X	X				X	X	X	X		Foster carers	Groups of carers	No	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	Teachers, Exclusion Officers, EWOS, careers officers, EP, Early Years Practitioners, Reading Recovery Trainer	<a href="mailto:jill.dyson@westsussex.gov.uk">jill.dyson@westsussex.gov.uk</a>	
Training on education matters	Luton	X	X									Whole family	Foster cares including agency FC	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	EP, Behaviour team, SEN team, outside speakers	<a href="mailto:Rosalind.paul@luton.gov.uk">Rosalind.paul@luton.gov.uk</a>	

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Annual training for foster carers	Solihull	X	X	X			X	X			Updates e.g. on pp	Foster carers	Groups of families	Yes	No	VS directly	LACES workers	<a href="mailto:cameron@solihull.gov.uk">cameron@solihull.gov.uk</a>
Sessions for foster carers planned and delivered by the VS on specific educational issues e.g. PEPs, communication with schools, maths etc (approximately two a term)	Enfield	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		Foster carers	Individual families	Yes	No	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	VS staff, social workers, EPs	<a href="mailto:jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk">jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk</a>
Mandatory multi-issue foster care training	Brighton & Hove	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Foster carers	Groups of carers	No	No	Other service providers within the LA	Appropriate professionals	<a href="mailto:robert.caddick@brighton-hove.gov.uk">robert.caddick@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>
Regular foster carer training throughout the year	Oxfordshire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Foster carers	Individual families	Yes	No	VS directly	Social Workers	<a href="mailto:lucy.mettyear@oxfordshire.gov.uk">lucy.mettyear@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>
One day annual training for carers and adopters provided in conjunction with a neighbouring local authority. Format: one lead session followed by a choice of two workshops. Choices include all focus areas but not all will be available every year.	South Gloucestershire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Foster carers	Groups of families	No	Yes	VS directly, other service providers within the LA and from another LA, private agency	Attachment and trauma consultant, VS staff, PSHE advisory teacher, Social Workers	<a href="mailto:jo.hiam@southglos.gov.uk">jo.hiam@southglos.gov.uk</a>
VS team members train new foster and kinship carers on a regular basis	Dorset	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Foster carers	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	VS staff and Fostering Social Workers	<a href="mailto:d.alderon@dorsetcc.gov.uk">d.alderon@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a>
VS works closely with the team that deliver training for foster carers and delivers up to ten courses per year; these include a contribution to Skills for Fostering. The courses the VS runs are half day courses.	East Sussex	X	X	X			X	X			Skills to Foster	Foster carers		No	Yes	VS directly	VS Deputy Head, Caseworkers, Advisory Teachers, Careleavers	<a href="mailto:anna.brookes@eastsussex.gov.uk">anna.brookes@eastsussex.gov.uk</a>
Holistic multi-agency training programme run throughout the year	Kent	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		LAC, looked after sibling groups, Foster Carers, Whole family	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly, other service providers within the LA, private agency		<a href="mailto:tony.doran@kent.gov.uk">tony.doran@kent.gov.uk</a>
Presentations to semi-formal training sessions run by the authority fostering for foster carers	Bath and North East Somerset	X					X	X				Foster carers and adopter parents	Foster carers and adopters	No	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	Social Workers, local University Lecturers	<a href="mailto:Michael.Gorman@bathnes.gov.uk">Michael.Gorman@bathnes.gov.uk</a>
Training provided for new foster carers three times a year.	Plymouth	X										Foster carers only	Groups of foster carers	Yes	No	VS directly	VS staff	Simon Mower <a href="mailto:virtualschoolteam@plymouth.gov.uk">virtualschoolteam@plymouth.gov.uk</a>

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<b>Foster Carers:</b>																		
Regular training sessions to update carers on the importance of their role in supporting their child's education; updates on legislative changes related to education and skills and knowledge to effectively support looked-after children.	Portsmouth	X	X			X	X				X	Foster carers only	Groups of families	No	Yes	VS directly	VSH and VS Deputy and foster carers	<a href="mailto:helen.thomson@portsmouthcc.gov.uk">helen.thomson@portsmouthcc.gov.uk</a>
VS provides the following training: a short session to all candidates on the preparation course for fostering (approximately every 3 months); a one day or two evenings training session about education for all new foster carers (4 sessions a year); update sessions on how to support your child in either primary or secondary education (up to 4 times a year)	Coventry	X										Foster carers only	Groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly	Virtual School and Social Workers	<a href="mailto:jayne.heavey@coventry.gov.uk">jayne.heavey@coventry.gov.uk</a>
<b>EDUCATION INFO AND SUPPORT - OTHER</b>																		
Book Club: This service provides all young people from Year 1- 8 with a book parcel to the value of about £20 six times per year. It is sent directly to the young person in their placement. The carer and social worker are involved and carers are given advice on how best to support the young person with the book parcels.	East Sussex	X					X					LAC		Yes	Yes	VS directly	Teachers, Social Workers, VS team, bookshop owner	<a href="mailto:anna.brookes@eastsussex.gov.uk">anna.brookes@eastsussex.gov.uk</a>
Sending home books and maths equipment to young people. This enables a link with foster carers with regards to supporting learning at home and engagement in activities.	Haringey	X	X															<a href="mailto:tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk">tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk</a>
Termly invitations to foster carers to attend half day meetings to discuss changes (PEPs, PP+), and reading, writing and maths support.	Sunderland	X	X									Foster carers only		No	Yes	VS directly	Fostering officers	<a href="mailto:dawn.shearsmith@sunderland.gov.uk">dawn.shearsmith@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
<b>SUPPORT GROUPS/FORUMS</b>																		
A 0.5 CAMHS Practitioner/Psychotherapist in the CAMHS team, managed by the VSH, is dedicated to working with foster carers to prevent placement breakdown and runs a support group for foster carers	Enfield	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		LAC, foster carers, whole family	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	CAMHS Mental Health Practitioner,/Psychot herapist; EPs	<a href="mailto:jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk">jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk</a>
Foster carer support group meetings held half termly led by Fostering Social Workers, who the VS works in partnership with. Education is a standing item on the agenda.	Dorset	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Foster carers	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	Fostering Social Workers and VS staff	<a href="mailto:d.alderson@dorsetcc.gov.uk">d.alderson@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a>

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VS Deputy Head regularly attends foster carers support groups (both agency and NCC carers groups) for information sharing & informal training. Approximately three different groups per term	Norfolk	X	X	X			X					Foster carers	Groups of families	No	No	VS directly	VS Deputy Head	<a href="mailto:tricia.clappara@norfolk.gov.uk">tricia.clappara@norfolk.gov.uk</a>
Attendance at Foster Carers Forum two or three times a year	Plymouth	X										Foster carers	Groups of foster carers	Yes	No	VS directly	VS staff	Simon Mower <a href="mailto:virtualschoolteam@plymouth.gov.uk">virtualschoolteam@plymouth.gov.uk</a>
<b>EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY</b>																		
Provide a comprehensive training with the EP service with regards to trauma and attachment.	Haringey				X	X						Foster carers						<a href="mailto:tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk">tracey.hutchings@haringey.gov.uk</a>
The EP employed by the VS as well as EPs in the generic EPS work with looked-after children & their foster carers	Enfield	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		LAC, Foster carers, whole family	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly and other service providers within the LA	EPs	<a href="mailto:jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk">jon.harris@enfield.gov.uk</a>
Support from a 0.5 EP employed by the Virtual School	Brighton&Hove	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Foster carers	Groups of foster carers	No	No	VS directly	EPs	<a href="mailto:robert.caddick@brjghton-hove.gov.uk">robert.caddick@brjghton-hove.gov.uk</a>
<b>STRATEGIC SUPPORT FOR FOSTER CARE</b>																		
One of the lead local authorities on the programme "London Fostering Achievement" to support fostering at a strategic level	Croydon	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		LAC, foster carers	Individual families and groups of families	Yes	Yes	VS directly, other service providers within the LA		<a href="mailto:sairah.shah@croydon.gov.uk">sairah.shah@croydon.gov.uk</a>