

Independent Support for
Fostering Households
subject to Allegations
and Serious Concerns



What is Independent Support?

- Information and advice about the process of enquiries and the rights and responsibilities of all parties
- Emotional support for Foster carers and their families
- Mediation – the process of an investigation can put an enormous strain on the relationship between foster carers and their fostering service
- Advocacy – some foster carers may wish for their independent supporter to advocate on their behalf for example in meetings

DfES (2006) *Protecting Children – Supporting Foster Carers*



"I felt that my extreme anguish was caused by bereavement; Debra understood. This was important to me"

Kinship Carer, South East England

As soon as possible and in consultation with the foster carer, the fostering service should commission a suitable independent provider

Fostering Network (2006) Managing allegations and serious concerns about fostercarers' practice





For further information:

www.fosteringsupport.co.uk

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