



Baby Adoption 0-2

Those wishing to adopt a child/ children in the age range 0-2 should apply to Glasgow and the West of Scotland Adoption Services (GWSAS)

GWSAS is a partnership with several local authorities including North Ayrshire Council. Prospective adopters for this age group attend an open evening and training in Glasgow. Following on from this their referral to adopt is passed to North Ayrshire Social Services.

Adoption Criteria

Age

- All applicants must be over 21 years old
- Applicants will only be accepted where the younger partner has not yet reached their 40th birthday and the older partner has not yet reached their 45th birthday
- Applicants will be accepted from single, married as non married couples, (including same sex couples)
- Couples must have lived together for at least two years prior to their enquiry

Infertility

- If the applicants are infertile, medical advice should have been sought in relation to this and both applicants must have undergone basic infertility investigation to the point where it is determined that they are unlikely to achieve a viable pregnancy.
- Applicants will not be accepted from enquirers currently undergoing any form of infertility treatment or from enquires on a waiting list for treatment.

- Enquirers are welcome to re-apply at the point when they have satisfied themselves that they no longer wish to pursue any form of infertility treatment, provided they still meet the other criteria of the service.

The criteria may be waived in particular circumstances such as;

- 1) Placement of a sibling group
- 2) Children who are difficult to place due to their ethnicity
- 3) Children with special needs

Preparatory Group

Enquirers must attend preparatory groups, usually held in Glasgow, prior to a formal application being accepted.

Children waiting to be Adopted

Applications will only be considered from enquirers who are willing to consider children from a range of backgrounds which include parental mental health illness, parents with learning difficulties, parental abuse of alcohol and drugs. The majority of children placed for adoption have suffered some trauma in their early life.

Ethnic Origin, Language and Religion

Applications will be accepted from enquirers of all ethnic origins, religions and language.

Birth Family Contact

Applicants must demonstrate their commitment to sharing information about the child's birth family and the circumstances of the adoption throughout his/her childhood.

Adopters should be prepared to offer occasional letter contact via social services (e.g. photos, cards or letters) with significant birth family members if requested to do so.

Assessment process

A full comprehensive assessment requires to be completed. This includes Local Authority, Health and Disclosure Scotland checks.

The assessment will be completed in 6 months unless there are circumstances, which require further investigation.

Applicants are required to provide the names of at least three referees one of whom should be a family member. They will be asked to complete a reference form and be visited by the assessing worker. There is no fee for this assessment,

Changes in Circumstances

In circumstances where applicants move outwith the West of Scotland, it would be unlikely that the application would proceed

For more information call

0845 270 0609

8.45am – 4.45pm Mon-Thurs

8.45am – 3.55pm Fri

Email: families.children@sw.glasgow.gov.uk

Or write to

Families for Children

PO Box 7535

Glasgow City Council

G42 2 AZ