



TALKING HEADS

Speakers and Discussion Exploring Society Today

Exploring the provision and current challenges of Fostering and Adoption and considering the future for this important aspect of child care.

26 OCT

Sarah Johal National Adoption Strategic Lead:

Each session starts at 19.30 and finishes at 21.00 – though discussion can continue in the café.

Donation: £3 but no one turned away for lack of funds



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THE EVENT

Fostering and adoption along with kinship care are frequently in the news. Sometimes this is in a positive way, highlighting good experiences that children and adults have experienced as a result of being fostered or adopted.

Sometimes there is more negative coverage highlighting lack of provision, lack of funding or disparities in support between those officially fostered and those in kinship care or noting the lack of continuing and postcode lottery support for adoptive parents for instance experiencing the challenges of teenage identity and birth parents. This session will give us an opportunity to listen to an expert in this area of work outlining the current situation in adoption and fostering and a chance to discuss after the presentation.

Each session starts at 19.30 and finishes at 21.00 – though discussion can continue in the café.

THE SPEAKER

Sarah Johal is the National Adoption Strategic Lead working with Regional Adoption Agencies. Prior to taking up this post in September 2021, Sarah was the Head of One Adoption West Yorkshire, the first Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) in England. Sarah has over 30 years' experience as a social worker and has worked for Leeds City Council as Head of Service for Looked After Children developing fostering, adoption and kinship services. Sarah is married with two children, now adults and is a firm believer in restorative practice and developing services based on research and evidence of what works well. Key to this approach is hearing from those with lived experience so they can influence decisions and services that affect their lives.

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