



Nadhim Zahawi MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

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Dear Colleague

I am writing to share with you some positive developments in the government's support for children in care. From 13th to 26th May, I am supporting the Fostering Network's Foster Care Fortnight. Foster parents are some of the most passionate, determined and capable people I have ever met, and they can have a transformational effect on the children they care for. This week, I wrote to foster families to reiterate my commitment, set out in [Fostering Better Outcomes](#) last year, to ensuring they have the skills, training and support they need to help the children in their care thrive. The focus of this year's campaign is #changeafuture. I hope you will join me in recognising the families in fostering who offer a loving home and much-needed stability to some of our most vulnerable children, and support the campaign to bring more people into fostering.

I want every child in care to have the best possible chance for success and happiness, and to have the skills and support they need to thrive as adults. Partnership working is crucial to open up the very best opportunities for these children. That is why we are launching a national scheme between independent schools and councils to improve our offer to young people in care, building on the highly successful work of the Boarding School Partnerships for children on the edge of care. We have also launched the Care Leaver Covenant, through which organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors offer help to care leavers to make the transition from care to independence. For those children who leave care through adoption, I am delighted that over half of Local Authorities are now part of a Regional Adoption Agency and I hope you will join me in supporting efforts to encourage more people to consider adopting.

I look forward to your continued support as we seek, together, to improve the lives of these children, and as we celebrate foster families across the country.

Yours sincerely,

Nadhim Zahawi MP

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