

Special Guardianship Team

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council are committed to supporting Special Guardians and the children and young people they care for.

The **Special Guardianship Team** are responsible for providing support and advice to Special Guardians, and to families that are considering making an application for a Special Guardianship order (**SGO**).

The SGO Team provide support to carers, children and young people. They offer a kinship carer support group and access to therapeutic interventions. The team also plan and facilitate seasonal activities and events.

Meet the Team



Rachel McGillicuddy, Social Worker
Tel: 01642 444121



Doran Kirtley, SGO Support Worker
Tel: 07827958411



Jessica Mitchell, SGO Support Worker
Tel: 07970298118

The team can be contacted on the group email address: SGOTeam@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Kinship Carer Support Group

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council have established a support group for all kinship carers alongside The Link CIC and Grandparent's Plus. The group takes place fortnightly on a Tuesday from 10-12 at Kielder Close Children's Centre.

The group is designed for all kinship carers who are looking after children that cannot be cared for by their own parents. It allows carers to come together and gain information as well as peer support in a safe and friendly environment.



Guidance

Information can also be found on the Peoples Information Network (PIN) <http://www.peoplesinfonyet.org.uk/kb5/redcar/directory/service.page?id=f1fMnhS--rQ&>

Support for you

The Special Guardianship Team can advise on services that may benefit your family circumstances. Services can also include:

Direct work with children and young people: If you feel that the child you are caring for would benefit from emotional support, the SGO Team are able to provide regular intervention and outreach support.

Local Programmes

Therapeutic Parenting Programmes: Programmes are designed for kinship carers who are looking after children and young people that have relationship difficulties, especially those who have experienced attachment problems, trauma, loss and/or separation early in their life.

There are additional parenting and training programmes available within Redcar and Cleveland. If you are interested in attending or want further information on any of the Local



Local Support Services

The Special Guardianship Team are here to provide information and advice for any of your queries and if we can't help we will aim to point you in the right direction. There is also a range of local support services available to you, the contact details of some of the services are below:

Carers Together

- Carers Information & support service
- Welfare Rights Service
- Counselling Services
- Activities & events



Tel: 01642 488977, email: carerstogether@btconnect.com
Website: <https://www.carerstogether.co.uk/>

Grandparents Plus

- Advice & information on welfare benefits & other sources of financial support
- Advice on issues including employment, housing, debt, social care & education
- Peer support & a listening ear from their Someone Like Me volunteers
- Kinship Active: A project to help kinship care families get active in Teesside



Tel: 0300 123 7015, email: advice@grandparentsplus.org.uk
Website: <https://www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/>

Early Help Youth Provision

- Activities, events & trips including arts, culture & sports
- Safe4Us (LSCB junior board)
- Outreach Youth Work & youth centres covering all the Redcar & Cleveland localities
- One to one & group work
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Tel: 01642 771181

A professional referral must be made for families to access these services, please contact the team for further information.

Middlesbrough & Teesside Philanthropic Society

- A mentoring project for children aged 8-12 who have low self-esteem/confidence or have experienced a difficult background
- Caravan hire available at Reighton Sands



Website: <https://www.teessidecharity.org.uk/>

A professional referral must be made for families to access this service, please contact the team for further information.

People's Information Network

A wealth of information on local programmes and support services can be found on the People's Information Network



Please visit: www.peoplesinfonet.org.uk

Emergency Helplines

First contact

If you have concerns that a child is being abused or neglected, or that they may be at risk of harm, you should contact: The Access Team, Redcar Children's Services on 01642 771500 or Emergency Duty Team (outside office hours)
Tel: 08702 402994. In an emergency, contact the Police on 999

Youngminds Parents Helpline

Offers free, confidential online & telephone support to any adult worried about the emotional problems, behaviour or mental health of a child or young person.
Tel: 0808 082 5544
Website: <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-helpline/>

To find out more about our Children and Young People's Services please visit:
www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk and search for Children's Services.
Seaford House, Redcar, TS10 1SP
Customer Services Team: 01642 774774
email: contactus@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

A Brighter Future for Our Children & Young People



Redcar & Cleveland Children and Families Support for Special Guardianship



this is Redcar & Cleveland