



Children Placed in the Reading Borough Area

Information for local
authorities

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Information about Reading and Brighter Futures for Children

If you have placed or are looking to place a child in the Reading borough area, you may want to know a little more about the borough and what services and support will be available while they live here.

This document provides some information about the borough and contact details for Brighter Futures for Children services that you may need to contact in order to ensure children looked after receive the support they need locally and are not disadvantaged by being placed out of borough.

Feel free to pass this information on to your foster carers in the Reading borough area or other relevant professionals within your children's social care service.

It would also be great to hear from you if you have similar information and contact details about the services you offer for children and young people, in the event Brighter Futures for Children may place in your borough.

About Reading

Reading is a major cultural destination, with 1000 years of heritage, a vibrant cultural scene, a year-round festival programme and a wide variety of venues showcasing local, national and international performers, from live music to comedy, theatre to visual arts.

Reading can claim to be one of the major heritage sites in the south east. The RSA rank Reading in the UK top 16% for historic built environment and top 2% for museums. Reading Abbey is the burial place of King Henry I of England. Oscar Wilde and Jane Austen have strong links to the town and many of Britain's famed Victorian architects, such as Soane and Gilbert Scott, designed buildings in the town.

For further information, please follow the links below:

[About Reading](#)

[Reading pocket map](#)

About Brighter Futures for Children

Brighter Futures for Children is a not-for-profit company, independent of, but wholly owned by Reading Borough Council. Brighter Futures for Children delivers children's social care, early help & prevention and education services on behalf of Reading Borough Council.

Brighter Futures for Children has access and provides a wide range of services and facilities for children and young people living in the Reading area that can help them to achieve their potential.

- **Children's social care** - Social care services provide support to children in need of help and protection
- **Education, Special Education Needs and Disabilities** - Our services include school improvement support and traded services to schools, special educational needs and/disabilities, home to school transport and children missing education
- **Early Help** - Early help services provide targeted support to children, young people and families at the earliest point of identified need
- **Libraries and leisure facilities** - delivered by Reading Borough Council.

Notifications – When you place a child looked after in the Reading borough area

Before you contact our service, please check that your child looked after is actually being placed in the Reading borough area. You can do this easily by using the - Find your local council link:

<https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>

When notifying Brighter Futures for Children of a new placement, please use Brighter Futures notification form template so that we can make sure we have all the relevant information about the child. The notification form can be found here:



Child looked after notification form.docx

All notifications of children looked after being placed in the Reading borough area should be sent to CSPOA@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

Future updates

When notifying Brighter Futures for Children of changes of address or of children looked after leaving the Reading borough, you will need to send the relevant information to - childrens.placements@brighterfuturesforchildren.org so we can make sure our records are kept up-to-date.

Please ensure that any notifications also highlight particular risks and vulnerabilities to assist our professionals in responding effectively to any issues that may arise. If you require Brighter Futures for Children to undertake some duties on your behalf, then please discuss at the notification stage so we can confirm availability and capacity with you to avoid delay in services being provided to your child or young person.

Our services

Brighter Futures for Children offers a range of services for children and young people listed below. You can read more about each service by clicking this link:

<https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/services/>.

- [Children social care](#)
- [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\)](#)
- [Adoption](#)
- [Early help](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Virtual school](#)
- [Fostering](#)
- [Mental health support team](#)
- [Respite care](#)
- [Traded services](#)
- [Under 5's](#)
- [Youth Offending Service \(YOS\)](#)

- [Our partners, including Thames Valley Police](#)
- [Children in Care Council](#)
- [Childrens Centres](#)
- [Allegations/LADO](#)
- [Berkshire West Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

One Reading



One Reading is a multi-agency partnership committed to delivering better outcomes for children, young people and families and developing a local consensus on how to work together.

For more information, please follow this link: <http://rva.org.uk/one-reading/>

IASS

The Reading Information Advice and Support Service (IASS) is an independent service for:

- Parents and carers of children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs/disabilities (SEND)
- Children and young people with special educational needs/disabilities.

The service offers:

Free, confidential and impartial information, advice and support about education, health and social care.

Contact the team

Call the helpline: 0118 937 3421

Email: iass@brighterfuturesforchildren.org(link sends e-mail)

Website: www.readingiass.org(link is external)

Facebook: @ReadingIASS

Advocacy

Reconstruct

We partner with [Reconstruct \(link is external\)](#) to provide our Advocacy and Independent Visitors service.

Berkshire West Health Team for Looked After Children and Young People

Whitley Health & Social Services Centre,

268 Northumberland Avenue,

Whitley, Reading,

Berkshire,

RG2 7PJ

0118 931 2111

