

## **Referral criteria for the Kinship Care Support Service**

- **The carer of the child must be a kinship carer.** This includes family members (eg stepparents who did not previously live with the child, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles) as well as extended family members and friends, who would be considered by children's services as private foster carers.
- **The child/ren must be under 18 years of age,** however consideration will be given if the carer is caring for a young adult who has a disability or illness.
- Support can be offered regardless of how long the child has been in kinship care.
- Support can be offered regardless of the type of arrangement in place – an informal arrangement, a social care placement, special guardianship etc.
- Support needs will be assessed by the support worker through the referral form and assessment and support will be offered by phone, at home or elsewhere in the community as appropriate. This will be dependent on the wishes of the carer and the outcome of the risk assessment.
- Support is available to all families meeting the criteria living in Peterborough City.
- **Referrals sent by professionals must be signed by the person being referred before the support worker is able to contact them to offer an assessment.**