



Fostering by numbers

The big picture

83,000 – the number of looked after children there are on any given day in the UK

69,000 – the number of these children who are looked after away from home

53,000 – the number who are in foster care

45,000 – the number of foster families in the UK currently caring for these children and young people

10,000 – the number of foster carers desperately needed to meet the growing need of vulnerable children and young people

5,000 – the number of new carers needed annually to meet the UK wide target. As well as new placements, there is also a need to replace those carers who leave

Statistics taken from The Fostering Network 2010

According to the Department of Education (December 2010), of the children looked after continuously for 12 months and of the age where the child is eligible to sit key stage assessments and tests:

- 12% achieved five or more GCSEs or the equivalent including English and mathematics at grades A* to C.
- 73% of school age children have some form of special educational needs
- 58% achieved the expected level in reading
- 62% achieved the expected level in mathematics at Key Stage 1
- 36% achieved the expected level in both English and mathematics in Key Stage 2 tests

asphaleia statistics

850 – the number of foster carers needed in the South East, the 4th highest region in the UK

2000 – the number of foster carers currently needed in London, which is the highest figure in the whole of the UK

7 – the number of carers we need to recruit every year to meet the local need

2 – the number we currently recruit each year

15 – the number of carers we want to be working with in another location by 2015

1 – the number of parent and child placements we can offer

70 – the minimum number of annual enquiries we need to achieve seven foster carers per year...but we want more than that!

10 – the number of carers we want to achieve by the end of the year

Can you help us? Now is the time to care.

Quiz Question 3

- a. How many teenagers have Phillippa and Khosrow fostered?
- b. What is the age group they prefer to foster?