

January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Are you a kinship carer?

Kinship carers are friends or family who step in to raise a child when their parents may not be able to. This may be temporary or long term. You might be a grandparent whose grandchild has come to live with you or perhaps you are taking care of a younger sibling or niece/nephew. You may be a kinship carer in a formal foster care arrangement or special guardianship order. Alternatively, you may be providing informal care for a close relative or family friend. There are more than 141,000 children living in kinship care in England and Wales (source: Kinship care charity) and so you are certainly not alone.

If you are a kinship carer, please let us know. This will help us to better support you and your child, and we will be able to signpost you to further help and advice. We will handle any information shared sensitively.

Our Kinship Lead is Mr Thomas-White (Director Attendance, Inclusion, and Equalities) and you can contact them via enquiries@smrt.bristol.sch.uk. Our Kinship Lead has awareness of the particular needs of children in kinship care and the support available for children, carers and families.

You can also access information via:

- [The HOPE Virtual School Kinship care](#)
- [The Kinship care charity](#)

The Kinship care charity offer a wide variety of support for kinship carers including online workshops on a range of relevant topics and local coffee mornings.

You can sign up for the range of in person and online workshops provided by The Kinship care charity through this [link](#).

Kinship will also be running a Kinship Roadshow in Bristol on 20th March 2025. Kinship carers can find out more and sign up [here](#).

Yours faithfully



Del Planter
Headteacher