



**APSE Annual  
Report 2024–25**

# Summary of APSE Annual Report 2024–25



## Achievements and Innovation

The report details the agency’s innovations and commitment to high-quality adoption support across Bexley, Kent, and Medway.

## Key Funded Initiatives

Department for Education funding supports early permanence placements, sibling matching, and multidisciplinary adoption support services.

## Community Engagement and Support

Participation events, peer support, and voice groups enhance community involvement and strengthen the adoption network.

## Training and Collaboration with Children Services

Professional training is prioritised with positive feedback, improving timeliness and outcomes for children across the region.



# Child's Adoption Journey - Medway

## Increased Best Interest Decisions

Agency Decision Maker Best Interest Decisions increased to 28 from 20 last year.

## Rise in Placement Orders

Placement Orders rose to 25 from 12 last year.

## Adoption Orders and Placements

In 2024–25, 15 adoption orders were granted and 14 children were successfully placed for adoption in Medway.

## Early Permanence

Two children were placed via Early Permanence, contributing to a 29% regional match rate exceeding the 20% target.

## Sibling Placements Success

Six sibling placements, including groups, highlight Medway's sibling group of three.





# Timeliness of Adoption Process

## Matching Decisions

Medway achieved an average of 147 days from placement order to matching decision, outperforming the national average of 218 days.

## Process Streamlining & Teamwork

Timeliness improvements resulted from streamlined processes and strong collaboration between CIC and Adoption

# Adoption Support

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## Adoption Support Fund Applications

Eighteen applications were submitted to provide therapeutic and tailored support services to adoptive families in Medway.



## Review Assessments Conducted

Twenty-two review assessments were carried out to ensure ongoing support meets adoptive families' needs.



## Community Engagement Events

Medway families participated in councils, fun days, family events, and youth activities to foster belonging.



## Peer and Adopter Support

Peer support schemes and adopter-led groups enhanced the adoption community's sense of belonging and support.



**CAFIS** supported birth parents, adopted adults, and birth relatives with records, intermediary services, and independent support.