

## Education Advisors Service for Adoptive Families

Local Authorities are now employing Education Advisors for previously looked after children and looked after children in early years as part of the statutory Virtual School function. The main purpose of this role is to promote the educational achievement of previously looked after children (adopted, special guardianship, residence and child arrangement orders) through the provision of **information and advice** to their parents, educators and early years settings.

I am pleased to inform you that Warwickshire County Council have appointed Heidi Wilde and Worcestershire County Council have appointed Jade Busby to this role.

ACE, Heidi and Jade and are keen to develop an education information pack for adopters that will include the information you need to provide to school to confirm that

- your child is adopted and eligible for pupil premium plus
- school's use of pupil premium plus
- what to consider when choosing a school, and
- managing transitions etc.

We would welcome your ideas about would be helpful to be included in the pack, for example, questions and answers sheet – what would be helpful for you to know? What resources you have come across that would benefit other families?

Jade and Heidi will be providing **two training events** this year in relation to general educational issues. Dates to be confirmed - keep an eye on the training calendar on the ACE website.

In **Warwickshire** you can be referred to Heidi via your social worker, a referral form will be provided. Appointments can be booked via ACE at [enquiries@aceadoption.com](mailto:enquiries@aceadoption.com) - prior booking is essential. Alternatively contact Heidi by email or phone as below.

In **Worcestershire** Jade will be holding a “weekly Wednesday” educational helpline, 9.30 - 11.00 am on 01905 843770.

