

Special Guardianship

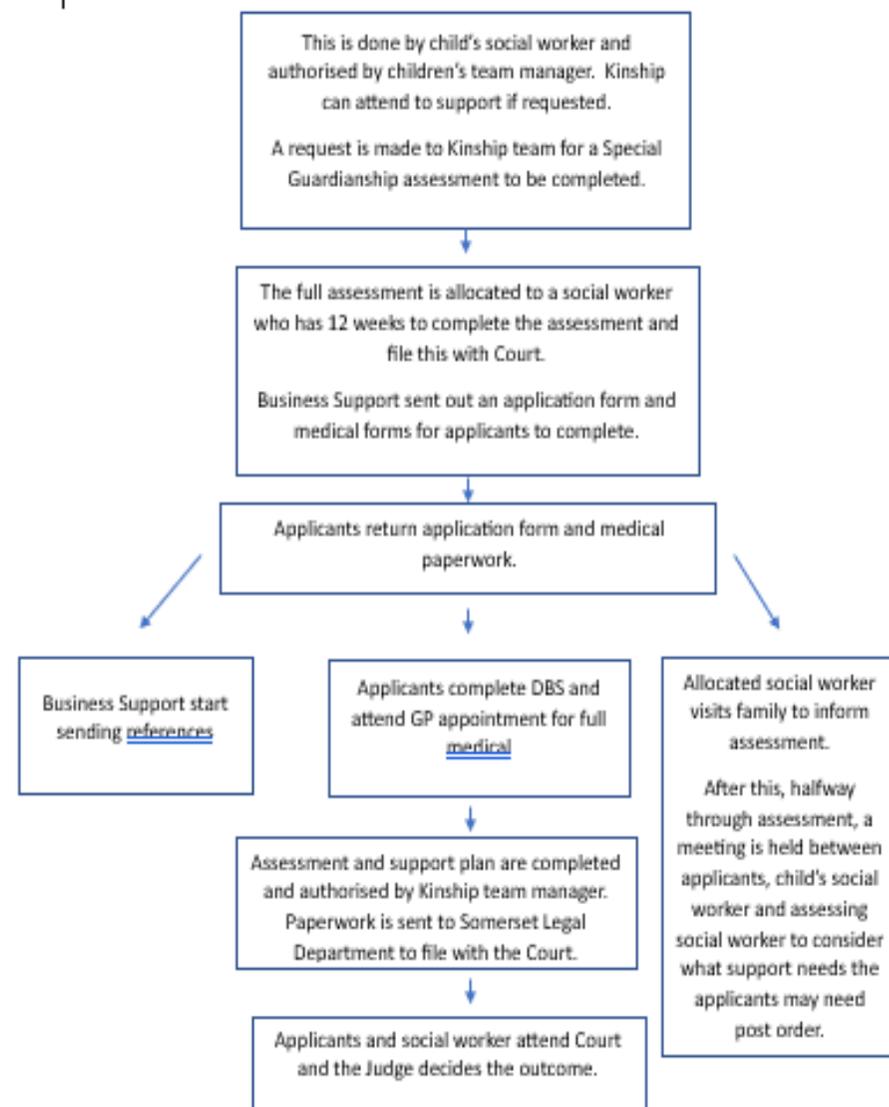
A Special Guardianship Order is a private law order made under the Children Act 1989 and is intended for those children who cannot live with their birth parents and who would benefit from a legally secure home. A special guardianship assessment will be completed and presented to court where a Judge will make a decision as to whether to make the order.

What you will get:

- £150+VAT towards legal advice upon positive Viability Assessment
- £250+VAT towards legal advice upon a fully completed assessment.
- Parental Responsibility (PR) to make decisions for the child.
- Three months support following the Special Guardian Order.
- No mandatory social worker.
- You may receive financial assistance in the form of a Special Guardian Allowance (this is not an entitlement; it is means tested and reviewed regularly.)
- Access to time limited support around specific issues.
- Access to optional support groups.
- Access to training.
- Access to the Adoption Support Fund for therapeutic work if the child has been a Child Looked After (CLA) prior to the Special Guardian Order.
- Support and guidance around managing family time.

What we expect from you:

- To engage in a Special Guardianship assessment (which will include a medical, police checks and references) and attend court where necessary.
- The ability to manage situations and family time independently.
- An understanding of the sacrifices you will need to make.
- The ability to prioritise the needs of the child.
- The ability to safeguard the child.



Useful links:

-  www.somerset.gov.uk - Somerset Council
-  www.kinship.org - The Kinship Care Charity
-  www.frg.co.uk - Family Rights Group
-  ww.naotp.com - National Association of Therapeutic Parents
-  www.citizensadvice.org.uk - Citizen's Advice
-  www.familymediationcouncil.org.uk - Family Mediation Council
-  www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/somersets-local-offer - Somerset's Local Offer

A Guide to Kinship Care Special Guardians



For further information,
advice and support regarding
Kinship Care, please contact
the Kinship Team using the
details below:



kinship@somerset.gov.uk



01823 358222

Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm
Fridays 9am to 4:30pm