

# Information for Grandparents of an Adopted Child

[www.afteradoption.org.uk](http://www.afteradoption.org.uk)

0800 0 568 578

## We Can Help

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We are well aware of the pain and loss which grandparents feel when they lose contact with a grandchild.

It does not get any easier as the years pass, and perhaps the pain increases as we grow older and begin to think of the grandchild we may never see again.

There is no doubt that many people pay little heed to the feelings of grandparents, and this can be particularly so in the case of adoption.

## What You Can Do

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### The Adoption Contact Register

If your adopted grandchild is over 18 years of age you may be interested in an Intermediary Service (see Information for Birth Relatives). Alternatively, you can pass on information about yourself to:

The Adoption Contact Register  
Identity and Passport Service  
General Register Office (ARC)  
PO BOX 2, Southport, Merseyside  
PR8 2JD  
Telephone: 0300 123 1837

Website: [www.ips.gov.uk](http://www.ips.gov.uk)

If you register with the ONS Contact Register, your details will be forwarded when a request is received from the adopted person for access to their birth records, via a counsellor. The Adoption Contact Register has now been set up and the forms for inclusion of your information on the register can be obtained from either After Adoption or the Office of National Statistics at Southport. The fee for registering this information is £30. After Adoption can help you fill in the forms if you wish.

### The Adoption Agency

The adoption agency that placed your grandchild for adoption would keep information or letters you send and pass them on if they are contacted by the adopted person. If the adoption agency no longer exists the files should be with the Local Authority Social Services Department for the area in which the agency was operating. If you have any difficulty locating the agency files, you should contact After Adoption as we have access to a directory of agencies, past and present.

If your grandchild is under 18 years of age it may be possible to set up a 'Letterbox' arrangement via the agency which arranged the adoption. You could enquire whether this can be set up.

### Grandparents' Federation

If you have not already contacted them you might find the Grandparents' Federation are well versed in the implications of all this. Their address is:

Grandparents' Federation,  
Moot House, The Stow,  
Harlow, Essex, CM10 3AG.  
Tel: 01279 444964.

Website: [www.grandparents-federation.org.uk](http://www.grandparents-federation.org.uk)

## Further Information

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If you would like to discuss any of this information or your particular situation, please do not hesitate to get in touch with After Adoption via our ActionLine number 0800 0 568 578.

A further resource which may be of interest is a book produced by Family Rights Group ([www.frg.org.uk](http://www.frg.org.uk)) and Age Concern ([www.ageconcern.org.uk](http://www.ageconcern.org.uk)) called 'Grandparents' Rights'.