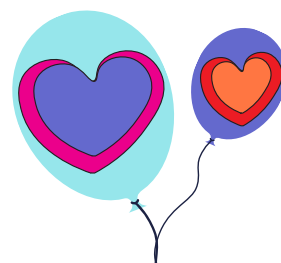




For family or friends who
step up to raise a child.



Kinship Care Week

5-11 October 2026

Kinship Care Week 2026: Guide for kinship carers

What is Kinship Care Week?

Kinship Care Week (5 – 11 October 2026) is a time to shine a light on the vital role of kinship carers – relatives and friends who step up to raise a child when their parents are unable to.

Across England and Wales, more than 141,000 children are being raised in kinship care, growing up in loving and stable homes that keep them connected to their families, roots and community

This Kinship Care Week, we're celebrating the unbreakable bonds at the heart of kinship families – and the communities they build to support one another - while highlighting the realities of stepping up to care for a child who has had a difficult start in life.

This year we also mark a major milestone: our 10th anniversary of Kinship Care Week.

Over the past decade kinship care has moved from being often overlooked to being increasingly recognised and understood.

Because kinship families should be recognised, valued and supported – and **Kinship Care Week is a key opportunity to come together to celebrate all that they do every single day.**

This Kinship Care week we want the experiences of kinship families to be **seen, heard, and better understood.**

Who is a kinship carer?

A kinship carer includes those with a legal order like a special guardianship order or child arrangements order, kinship foster carers (also known as family and friends or connected foster carers), as well as informal kinship carers with no legal order.

Kinship Care Week digital toolkit - what's inside



This guide for making your Kinship Care Week 2026 a success



Kinship Care Week poster, social media flyer and local media press release to promote Kinship Care Week



Kinship Care Week template emails to invite MPs/ Councillors to meet with you

We are Kinship. The leading kinship care charity in England and Wales.

We deliver national [support, advice and information](#) and connect kinship carers. So they feel empowered rather than isolated.

Our 160 [peer support groups](#) across England and Wales offer kinship carers a safe space to meet with other kinship carers, share experiences and get emotional support.

[Workshops and roadshows for kinship carers](#) provide free advice, tips and practical tools for those who are new to kinship care and to those who have been kinship carers for years. Run by specialists, [our advice line](#) helps kinship carers navigate a sometimes complex and confusing system.

Get involved in Kinship Care Week



Raise awareness by sharing information about kinship care and local kinship carer support in local libraries, local authority websites, local shops etc. with the help of our [Kinship digital toolkit](#).



Follow Kinship's social media and share the information we post about #KinshipCareWeek



Host a tea party for kinship carers or kinship families in your local area.

Kinship Care Week tea parties hosted by Kinship support groups are special moments of connection where you can grab a cuppa, some cake, have a chat and celebrate all kinship families.



Engage with your MP or Local Councillor. Invite them to a support group if you have one or ask them for a meeting. Contact local media about it and any activities you get up to.

If you have any questions,
please contact
[**comms@kinship.org.uk**](mailto:comms@kinship.org.uk)

Ensure you're ready
for Kinship Care Week by
[**following Kinship's social media.**](#)



@Kinshipcarecharity



@kinship_charity



Kinship



kinship.org.uk