






## Support for Adopted Adults Search and Intermediary Services

A search and intermediary service is a specialist service that's provided by a registered adoption agency, who can help search for a birth relative and make an approach to let them know of your interest in making contact.

 **0300 123 1066**  
**[www.adoptionmatters.org](http://www.adoptionmatters.org)**

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# Support for adopted adults

Search and intermediary services

## What is a search and intermediary service?

A search and intermediary service is a specialist service that's provided by a registered adoption agency, like Adoption Matters, who can help search for a birth relative and make an approach to let them know of your interest in making contact.

## Before you start the process

Before using the services of a search and intermediary service, we would recommend that you access the General Register Office website and add your details to the Adoption Contact Register. This means that if any of your birth family have added their names to this, you will be linked and you will be informed and given your birth relative's details and last known address. They will not be given any of your details so that you have the control in this situation. There is a £15 one off charge for entering your name on the register.

The website link is: <https://www.gov.uk/adoption-records/the-adoption-contact-register>

## Services Adoption Matters offer

### Initial consultation, cost £100 for 1 to 1.5 hours

This will include having sight of your ID and what you already know and what you hope to achieve. A discussion will also take place about the potential that the person you are searching for cannot be found or does not want any contact. We will give advice about accessing your adoption records, if you have not already done this. We will then make contact with the adoption agency who hold your records, and seek their view about any potential contact with birth family.

### Tracing Service, cost £300. Up to 5 hours.

#### Additional hours, for more complex searches, costed at £60 per hour.

Having identified the birth relative you wish to search for, we will then work to find them on your behalf. We will use our extensive experience in this field to search public records, social media and subscription based services.

We may need to access birth, marriage or death certificates, to validate the person's identity. The cost of up to two certificates is included. If the search proves to be more complex then we will ask you to cover the cost of any additional certificates (currently £11 each).

It may be that you already know the location of the person you wish to make contact with and therefore you just want an intermediary service.



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## Intermediary service, cost £300. Up to 5 hours of work.

### Additional hours costed at £60 per hour.

Having identified the location of the person you wish to have contact with, we will begin the process of approaching them. Once contact is established, we would then support you in gradually sharing and receiving information by that by letter, email or telephone calls.

The final stage would be a reunion, where you will meet with your birth relative in a safe environment supported by our staff.

## Travel charges for reunions

Reunions will take place in an Adoption Matters office, or if the service user wishes us to travel to their preferred venue, we will include any incurred travel costs to be paid by the service user at 45p a mile, along with a charge of £30.00 per hour for travel time for the Adoption Matters worker.

If you are interested in accessing this service, or just want to learn more about what we support you with, please email us at: [postadoption@adoptionmatters.org](mailto:postadoption@adoptionmatters.org)

## About Adoption Matters

Adoption Matters is a children's charity and voluntary adoption agency established in 1947. We have been providing a support and guidance service for adopted children, adults and birth families for over 50 years.

We cover the whole of the North of England, parts of Wales, Stoke, Stafford and Shropshire. We are the ONLY adoption service in the UK rated Outstanding by Ofsted, 5 times in a row.



**Head Office:** 14 Liverpool Road, Chester, CH1 2AE.


Also offices in: Warrington, Manchester, Hale, Blackburn, Stoke, Leeds and Durham.

**Email:** [postadoption@adoptionmatters.org](mailto:postadoption@adoptionmatters.org)



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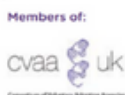
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**Ofsted 'Outstanding' since 2008 – the ONLY adoption service in the UK rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted 5 times in a row.**



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