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Dear Foster Carer

The Freedom Card scheme in County Durham is primarily for children and young people in care, who are looked after by Durham County Council. Durham County Council Foster Carers (including their own children) can also register for a Freedom Card so that they can accompany looked after children and young people in leisure activities.

The aim of the scheme is to encourage and support children and young people to access community leisure, sports and cultural activities. The Freedom Card is accepted at a number of leisure centres across County Durham, also various attractions across the North East as listed in the Freedom Card Guide.

This form is to register for a Freedom Card for free admission of up to 5 people (up to 2 adults and 3 children or up to 1 adult and 4 children), into venues as listed in the Freedom Card Guide. Once the young person in care reaches age 14 years they will need to apply for a Young Person Freedom Card so they can access the venues themselves. Should there be more than 5 people using the card please contact Investing in Children CIC.

During our monitoring of this scheme we will from time to time send out letters asking you to give your views and opinions on the scheme. We hope that by doing this the venues available remain what children and young people enjoy accessing.

As you know the Freedom Card scheme was designed to benefit children and young people and to encourage family activities. For this reason, the Freedom cards should not be used to access any venues unless accompanying a Durham County Council placed child or young person. The Freedom Card is **NOT** for use by Foster carers and birth children without being accompanied by a looked after child or young person. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

The cards each have a number written on them this is so we can identify who is using the card. If during monthly monitoring, it is found that cards have been misused, you agree to repay the cost to Investing in Children CIC.

**Please note**

The first 2 monthly block of swimming lessons will be funded by the Freedom Card scheme for looked after children.

The Freedom Card Scheme is administered by Investing in Children CIC, Should you have any questions please contact Investing in Children on 0191 3077030 or email [info@investinginchildren.net](mailto:info@investinginchildren.net)

In order to receive a Freedom card please complete the registration form overleaf and return to Investing in Children CIC either by email [info@investinginchildren.net](mailto:info@investinginchildren.net) or by post. You will receive the card through the post.

Freedom Card No.

For Office Use only

**Family Freedom Card Registration Form**

**Durham County Council Foster Carer Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name(s) of Foster Carer(s) |  |
| Address |  |
|  |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Home Telephone Number |  |
| Mobile Phone Number |  |
| Email address |  |
| Birth Children details |  |
| 1. Name & date of birth |  |
| 1. Name & date of birth |  |
| 1. Name & date of birth |  |

**Foster children details (placed by Durham County Council) Aged 1 to 13 years**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name & date of birth |  |
| Social Worker’s Email |  |
| Name & date of birth |  |
| Social Worker’s Email |  |
| Name & date of birth |  |
| Social Worker’s Email |  |
| Name & date of birth |  |
| Social Worker’s Email |  |
| Fostering Social Worker’s Email |  |

I wish to apply for a Freedom Card.

I have read and understood the conditions of use (insert X)

Name of Foster Carer:

Date:

The information that you give us is covered by **Data Protection**.

This means that we will keep personal information secure and we will not share it with other organisations.