

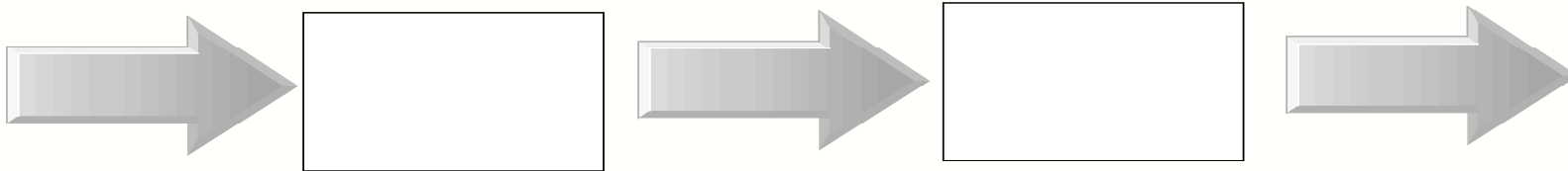
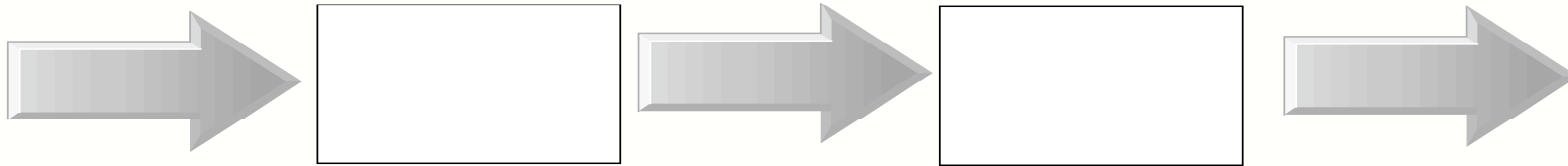
**Use the chart below to map your significant life experiences. Include:**

- Major life events; for example birth of siblings, schools, moving house?
- Both happy and difficult memories?
- When you first began to identify as a lesbian or gay man?
- Age of your first same sex relationship and any other significant gay and or straight relationships?
- Who you first came out to?
- Significant others you have come out to?

**Think about:**

- How you felt then?
- How it makes you feel now?
- What helped or made things worse at the time?
- Would you do things differently with hindsight?
- Would those around you do things differently?

## APPENDIX 1 FLOW CHART



### **1 Caring for children**

- 1.1 An ability to provide a good standard of care to children which promotes healthy emotional, physical, sexual And intellectual development throughout childhood and into adulthood.  
An ability to accept the individual child as he/she is.
- 1.3 An ability to provide care appropriate to the individual child as he/she is.
- 1.4 A knowledge of child development and an ability to listen to and communicate with children appropriate to their emotional age and understanding.
- 1.5 An ability to set appropriate boundaries, and manage children's behaviour within these.

### **2 Providing a safe and caring environment**

- 2.1 An ability to ensure that children are cared for in a home where they are safe from harm or abuse.
- 2.2 An ability to help children keep themselves safe from harm or abuse, and to know how to seek help if their safety is threatened.
- 2.3 An ability to recognise the particular vulnerability of disabled children to abuse and discrimination.

### **3 Working as part of a team**

- 3.1 An ability to work with other individuals and organisations and act as an advocate for the child.
- 3.2 An ability to communicate effectively.
- 3.3 An ability to keep information confidential.
- 3.4 An ability to understand the implications and effects of discrimination and racism.
- 3.5 An ability to promote an anti-racist and anti-discriminatory approach to parenting

### **4 Adoption as a life-long process**

- 4.1 An ability to understand and meet the child's needs in relation to their birth family and past history
- 4.2 An understanding that adoption is a life-long process and an ability to seek appropriate post adoption support at different stages.
- 4.3 An ability to understand and promote a young person's development towards adult status.

### **5 Own development**

- 5.1 An ability to appreciate how personal experiences have affected themselves and their families, and the impact adoption is likely to have on them all.

### 1 Caring for children

- 1.1 An ability to provide a good standard of care to children which promotes healthy emotional, physical, sexual and intellectual development.
- 1.2 An ability to accept the individual child as he/she is.
- 1.3 An ability to provide care appropriate to the individual child as he/she is.
- 1.4. An ability to work closely with children's families, and others who are important to the child.
- 1.5 An ability to set appropriate boundaries, and manage children's behaviour within these, without the use of physical or other inappropriate punishment
- 1.6 A knowledge of normal child development and an ability to listen to and communicate with children appropriate to their emotional age and understanding.
- 1.7 An ability to promote a young person's development towards adult status.

### 2 Providing a safe and caring environment

- 2.1. An ability to ensure that children are cared for in a home where they are safe from harm or abuse.
- 2.2 An ability to help children keep themselves safe from harm or abuse, and to know how to seek help if their safety is threatened.
- 2.3 An ability to recognise the particular vulnerability to abuse and to discrimination of disabled children.

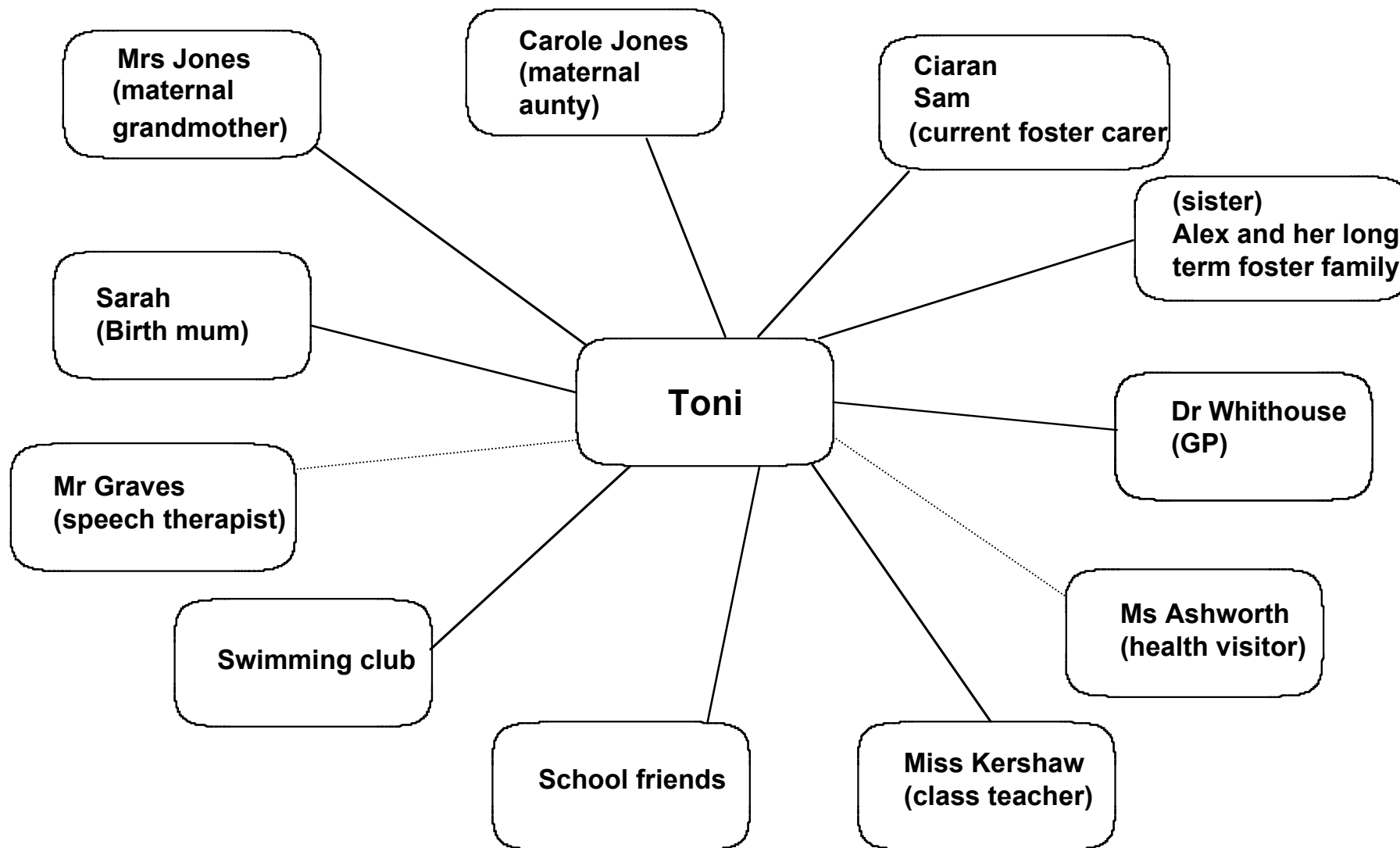
### 3 Working as part of a team

- 3.1 An ability to collaborate with other professional workers and to contribute to the department's planning for the child/young people.
- 3.2 An ability to communicate effectively.
- 3.3 An ability to keep information confidential.
- 3.4 An ability to promote equality, diversity and rights of individuals and groups within society.

### 4 Own development

- 4.1 An ability to appreciate how personal experiences have affected themselves and their families, and the impact that fostering is likely to have on them.
- 4.2 An ability to use people and links within the community to provide support.
- 4.3 An ability to use training opportunities and improve skills.
- 4.4 An ability to sustain positive relationships and maintain effective functioning through periods of stress.

### APPENDIX 3



## APPENDIX 4

HAPPY	SAD	GLAD	ANGRY
UPSET	CONFUSED	AMBIVALENT	FRUSTRATED
TEARFUL	SHOCKED	SICKENED	PERPLEXED
DOUBTFUL	DISPLEASED	PLEASED	TROUBLED
EMBARRASSED	HURT	SHOCKED	PITY
PROUD	POSITIVE	HUMILIATED	SURPRISED
EMPTY	AGGRESSIVE	UNCOMFORTABLE	COMFORTABLE

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## **Useful Organisations:**

### **Positive Parenting Campaign:**

Manchester-based group campaigning for opportunities for fostering and adoption by lesbians and gay men.

c/o LGF,

Box 102,

Unity House,

15, Pritchard Street,

Manchester.

M1 7DA.

[positiveparenting2001@hotmail.com](mailto:positiveparenting2001@hotmail.com)

[www.positiveparentingcampaign.freesevers.com](http://www.positiveparentingcampaign.freesevers.com)

### **Northern Support Group:**

Support group for lesbians and gay men interested or involved in fostering or adopting children, meets bi-monthly in Manchester and covers north of England.

PO Box 2078,

Sheffield.

S2 4YQ.

mob. 07952-410998.

### **Lesbian & Gay Foster & Adoptive Parents Network (LAGFAPN):**

London-based support group for lesbians and gay men interested or involved in fostering or adopting children.

c/o Stonewall,

46-48, Grosvenor Gardens,

London.

SW1W 0EB.

tel. 0207-881 9440.

[lagfapn@hotmail.com](mailto:lagfapn@hotmail.com)

**Pink Parents UK:**

National support, information and magazine for all lesbian and gay parents and their children.

Box 55,

Green Leaf Bookshop,

82, Colston Street,

Bristol.

BS1 5BB.

tel. 0117-904 4500.

[enquiries@pinkparents.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@pinkparents.org.uk)

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

**Children of Lesbians & Gays Everywhere (COLAGE):**

Web-based resource and support for children and young people with lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender parents.

[www.colage.org](http://www.colage.org)