



## Research project about growing up in an adoptive or special guardianship Family – information for professionals

### About the study

Family Routes will provide much-needed evidence about the needs, experiences and outcomes of children **who have left care** on a permanence order. The findings aim to help everyone understand more about the long-term outcomes of different routes to permanence for children and young people and their families to improve policy and practice. Previous similar studies have led to the government introducing new support for families like the Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund and extra support in schools. So, getting families to take part really does matter, as their views and experience can make a difference. The study is funded by the Department for Education and is being run by Ecorys UK, in partnership with Professor Julie Selwyn at the Rees Centre (University of Oxford) and Ipsos.

Having now completed the pilot, we will be launching the research across England in February 2024 and the research will run for several years. Our activities involve:

- Inviting eligible families to take part in this important research via the organisations that are already working with them, the services they may use, and social media communications. If you can help, please ask families to contact [family.routes@ecorys.com](mailto:family.routes@ecorys.com) or call **08081759341** to register their interest in taking part.
- Some families will be invited to an interview to understand their experiences in detail. The chat will include survey questions.
- Or families can choose to do an **online survey only** about their experiences of being part of an adoptive or special guardianship family:
  - An online survey with **adults** – adoptive parents and special guardians, who have children aged 12-25 years.
  - An online survey with **young people** aged 12-25, who left care in England on an Adoption Order or Special Guardianship Order.

**If you need any more information, you can reach the team using the contact details above. Thank you for helping us to reach eligible families.**

