Resources for LGBTQ+ couples and parents

Support services and useful guides

There are a number of sources of information online and organisations available to assist the LGBTQ+ community. Listed below are a small selection which we hope you will find helpful.

Each resource listed is responsible for its own content and Weightmans cannot guarantee the accuracy or availability of those resources listed.

Citizens Advice Bureau

Offers confidential advice, online, over the telephone or in person for free. https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/

Stonewall

Stands for LGBTQ+ people everywhere. They are part of a vibrant global movement for change made up of LGBTQ+ people, their allies, families, and friends. https://www.stonewall.org.uk/

Friends of Dorothy

A charity that champions social inclusion for older LGBTQ+ people by hosting regular activities and events. https://friendsofdorothy.org.uk/

Angels of Freedom

A community-based initiative organised by volunteers and supported by Leeds City Council, British Transport Police and West Yorkshire Police. https://www.angelsoffreedom.org.uk/

LGBT Switchboard

An LGBT+ helpline. https://switchboard.lgbt/

LGBT Parents

A network for LGBT parents and those thinking about becoming parents. https://www.facebook.com/groups/LGBTparentsunite

Family GenerAid Foundation

Aims to help people that need medical assistance to become parents via IVF, surrogacy, egg and sperm donation. https://www.familygeneraidfoundation.org/

Weightmans

Mermaids

Has helped gender-diverse kids, young people, and their families since 1995. https://mermaidsuk.org.uk/

LGBT Foundation

A national charity delivering advice, support and information services to lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) communities. https://lgbt.foundation/

MindOut

A mental health service run by and for lesbians, gay, bisexual, trans and queer people. https://mindout.org.uk/

Surrogacy UK

The leading UK not-for-profit surrogacy organisation. https://surrogacyuk.org/

Donor Conception Network

A supportive charity network of over 2,100, mainly UK-based, families with children conceived with donated sperm, eggs or embryos, those thinking about or undergoing donor conception procedures and donor conceived people. https://www.dcnetwork.org/

The Law Commission Review on Surrogacy

The Law Commission is undertaking a review on the law on surrogacy. Their final report and a draft Bill are expected in Autumn 2022.

https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/surrogacy/

CAFCASS (Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service) Guide to Surrogacy and Parental Orders

Cafcass represents children in family court cases in England. https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/grown-ups/parents-and-carers/surrogacy/

The Department of Health and Social Care's Surrogacy Pathway document

Information about surrogacy and the relevant legal process in the UK.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/having-a-child-through-surrogacy/the-surrogacy-pathway-surrogacyand-the-legal-process-for-intended-parents-and-surrogates-in-england-and-wales

Reading list for children

- Why I'm so special By Carla Lewis-Long
- The Kangaroo Pouch: A story about surrogacy for young children By Sarah A. Philips
- You Began as a Wish By Kim Bergman
- Hope and Will Have a Baby By Irene Celcer