

Action Against ASGSF Changes

PROTEST MARCH, SATURDAY MAY 3RD 2025 AT 13:00

*Please check our social media channels regularly for updates.

Instagram: www.instagram.com/asgsf_protest/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1135851281888729>

Twitter: https://x.com/ASGSF_Protest

Bluesky: <https://asgsfprotest.bsky.social>

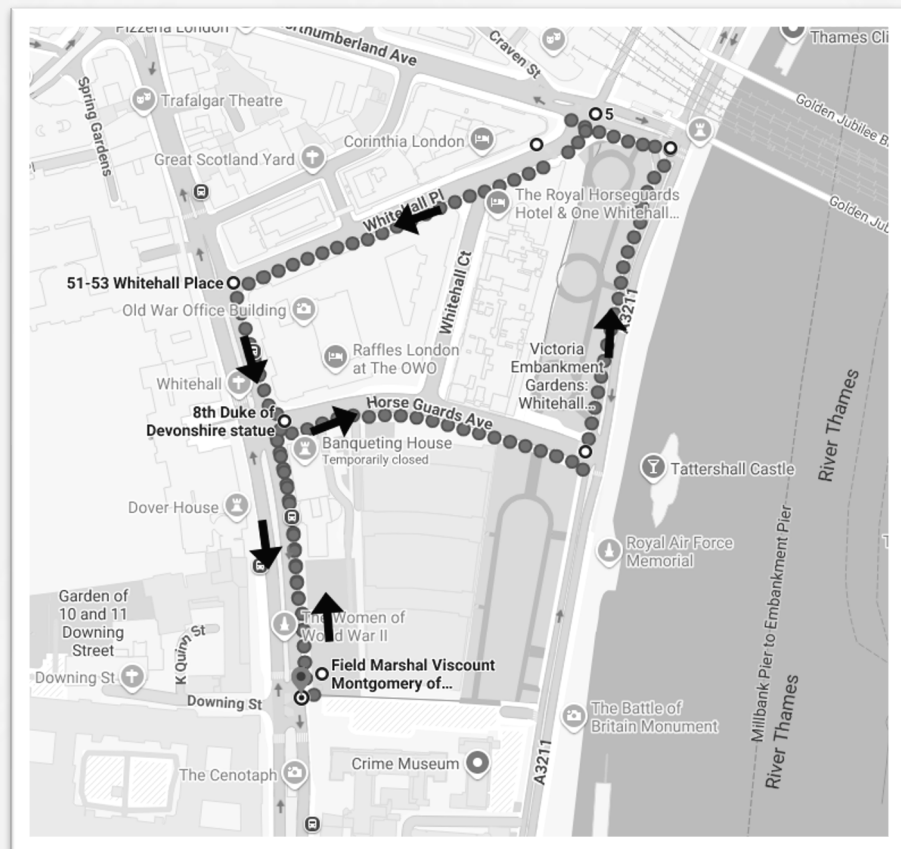
Sign the Petition! <https://tinyurl.com/25c8syvx>

Our protest march will begin at 13:00 at Richmond Terrace. It will then follow a short accessible route as shown on the map below, before returning to Richmond Terrace.

At 13:30, a small delegation will leave to deliver our petition to No. 10 Downing Street, before returning for speeches.

At around 14:30 our peaceful protest march and demonstration will conclude. We are then inviting those who wish to join us for a family picnic in St James's Park. This is an opportunity for us to be together in solidarity, celebrate our adoptive and kinship families and all those professionals and teams that support us.

March Route:



This document is likely to be updated in advance of the event. For the latest version, please visit the facebook event page <https://www.facebook.com/events/1135851281888729> or <http://www.asgsfprotest.com/event>
Enquiries: actionagainstasgsfchanges2025@gmail.com

Key Information Summary:

12:30. Gather East side of Parliament Street, opposite Downing Street.

Address: Richmond Terrace, Westminster, London SW1A 2AL

What3Words location [///sound.activism.notion](https://www.what3words.com/sound.activism.notion)

12:50 Pre-March briefing.

13:00 set off on peaceful protest march from Richmond Terrace, via Victoria Embankment and returning to Richmond Terrace.

13:30 Delegation to Downing Street to we will deliver our petition.

14:00 Speeches at Richmond Terrace.

14:30 Conclusion.

We'll then gather in St. James's Park, Storey's Gate Area for a family picnic and a celebration of everyone involved! **N.b We do not have permission to protest in St. James's Park.** We are attending as individuals and families and not as an organised event. Please be respectful of park rules and leave nothing behind.

Transport

LONDON UNDERGROUND

- St James's Park
- Westminster
- Embankment
- Charing Cross

RAIL

- Charing Cross

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Safety

Despite the seriousness of our campaign, we aim to make the day an enjoyable and safe one for all.

- We will have stewards on the day, identified by their hi-vis vests. If you have any questions or problems, please speak with a steward.
- There will be first aiders present, identified by an arm band. If you or someone near you feels unwell, please speak with a first aider.
- Please follow the route shown on the map above, and always stick to pavements and pedestrian crossings, always following the instructions of stewards. Do not stray into nearby parks enroute.
- If you see anything you believe to be a safety risk, please alert a steward immediately.
- Accessible toilets are available at Horse Guards Parade, Marlborough Gate, south end of Parliament Street, Westminster Bridge (please see map below for more information).
- **In an emergency always dial 999**



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What to Bring

- Family-friendly banners, placards, t-shirts with slogans are all encouraged. We will supply some, but please feel free to express yourself as you wish.
- We want to make an impact, so feel free to bring noisy items, instruments, drums & whistles etc.
- We're hoping for sunshine, so don't forget to bring water bottles, sunscreen and snacks.
- And if you're going to join the picnic in the park afterward, bring a picnic! **N.b The picnic is a separate event to the protest. We do not have permission to protest in St James's Park, and could be removed at the discretion of wardens. Please be respectful of park rules, and leave nothing behind.**

Media, Photography and Video

- Please feel free to take photographs and record video of the event. If share on social media or live-stream the event, please tag us, and please include the hashtags **#asgsf** and **#FundNowOrPayLater**

Instagram: [@asgsf_protest](#)
Facebook: [Action against ASGSF changes](#)
Twitter: [@ASGSF_Protest](#)
Bluesky: [@asgsfprotest.bsky.social](#)

- The organisers would be grateful if you would share any with the campaign. To send photos and video, you can email them to media@asgsfprotest.com. Longer videos will need to be sent via www.wetransfer.com
- Please respect any individuals who express a wish not to be photographed, and prioritise the safeguarding of children at all times. People who do not wish to be filmed **should assemble at the north end of the event while at Richmond Terrace, and should remain toward the rear of the march while in motion.** People taking photographs & video must avoid photographing in or toward these areas.
- We hope some media will be in attendance. Feel free to speak with journalists if you wish. There is a briefing sheet at the end of this document which sets out some helpful messages.

About our Campaign

THE ADOPTION & SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP SUPPORT FUND

The Adoption & Special Guardianship Support Fund (ASGSF) has been a lifeline for thousands of families raising children who have experienced early trauma, loss, and instability. It was created to ensure therapeutic support reaches the children who need it most: those adopted from care, those under Special Guardianship Orders and those living in kinship families, many of whom have complex developmental histories. For many of us, the Fund has meant the difference between crisis and stability.

Until now, it provided access to vital therapy that helps children build trusting relationships, manage overwhelming emotions, and begin to thrive in both family and school life. But in April 2025, the government introduced drastic cuts to the Fund, reducing what each child is eligible to receive and removing support for specialist assessments. These changes were made without consultation, and were not announced formally but slipped out via an email to the sector during Parliament's Easter recess.

While the Fund will continue from April 2025 with the same £50 million budget, the Fair Access Limit (FAL) will be reduced from £5,000 to £3,000 per child per year. The separate £2,500 allocation for specialist assessments, crucial to identifying the right support, is being scrapped. Assessments may still be considered, but must now come from within the reduced £3,000 cap, severely limiting what is available for therapeutic help. In addition, the matched funding previously available for children with the highest needs is also being abolished.

We are protesting not because we are ungrateful for what the Fund has achieved, but because we know exactly what is at stake when this support is taken away. The cuts may be intended to make the Fund stretch further, but in reality, they risk doing the opposite: making it too limited to be effective, and leaving families with nowhere to turn.

WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR

- The UK Government immediately reverses the changes made to the Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund as announced on 14/04/2025 for the financial year 25/26.
- A sector wide consultation is held in the next 12 months to consider how to ensure good quality therapy is provided for care experienced children in a timely manner.
- Any future changes to the current ASGSF system should be put on hold until such time as appropriate levels of planning and preparation are in place to prevent harm to children and families and the wider systems that serve their therapeutic needs.

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