

Corporate Parenting Select Committee

Yashi Shah, Interim Head of Adoption Service and Improvement, Coram – Kent County Council

Biography

Yashi Shah is the Coram adoption specialist running the Coram service in Kent.

Coram is one of the UK's first children's charities. It was founded in 1739 by Captain Thomas Coram, a philanthropist who wanted to provide care for abandoned children left dying on London's streets. The organisation's pioneering work attracted prestigious patrons including the artist William Hogarth and the composer George Frideric Handel.

Today Coram continues to help the UK's most vulnerable children by:

- Finding adoptive families who can provide love, care and security
- Inspiring children to make positive, healthy choices by helping them to better understand the risks of drugs and alcohol
- Upholding children's rights and empowering children in care to make their voices heard
- Providing practical skills and emotional support to vulnerable parents, so they can do their best for their children
- Giving isolated young people the security of a roof over their head, and supporting them to take charge of their lives.

Coram's mission is to develop, deliver and promote best practice in the support of vulnerable children and young people. Its vision is that every child has the best possible chance to lead a fulfilling life. Coram champions what matters most for children, creating better chances and a brighter, happier future.