**Too Old to Adopt at 4?**

As National Adoption Week kicks off this month (19th -25th October), Families for Children are appealing to those who have ever thought about adoption in North Devon not to hold back, and possibly consider opening their hearts to an older child, sibling group or those with extra needs, who are waiting and will wait the longest.

They have spent a lot of time dispelling the usual myths that surround adoption. However they are facing a new challenge, as potential adopters are failing to come forward because it has been widely reported that there are fewer young children and babies available to adopt.

***Who are these Children?***

Sibling groups that need to stay together, and older children who are on their "last chance" to have a new permanent family…alongside children who have a label of special needs with sometimes a very high level of medical needs feature as ‘hard to place’.

That doesn’t mean that there are not people out there who would have the skills or the will to take them home, claim them as their own and give them a family they deserve.

It is these children that we search long and hard to find new parents for. The best parents are those that are able to accept everything the children bring and love them anyway, take advice on parenting them differently and therapeutically, and be flexible about the change that inevitably occurs!

They are particularly keen to hear from people who live in and around North Devon and would consider adopting the children who wait the longest. They are urging people to take a look at how they can prepare and support you for life if you choose to adopt.

They are holding an open information day on Tuesday 20th October from 10am to 4pm, at their offices in Filleigh. See website for more details.

***Please call today on 01271 612004.***[***www.familiesforchildren.org.uk***](http://www.familiesforchildren.org.uk)