



# MOVEMENT FOR AN ADOPTION APOLOGY

## MOVEMENT FOR AN ADOPTION APOLOGY RESPONSE TO CHURCH OF ENGLAND APOLOGY FOR FORCED ADOPTION

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:00AM, THURSDAY 18 JUNE, 2026**

Today's apology from the Church of England for its part in historical adoption practices, and for the Mother and Baby institutions within which people were horribly mistreated, is welcomed as the first step in a much longer and more detailed process.

We would like to have been consulted as part of the process – conversation is not consultation – and to have participated in drawing up an apology that is meaningful for all affected.

That said, today's apology is an opportunity for the Church to hang its head in shame and fully accept responsibility for a degree of cruelty and suffering that was and is utterly wrong.

We thank the Church, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, for making this statement of apology. Many will draw comfort in knowing that their suffering has at long last been acknowledged.

What matters most is what comes next. An apology without corrective action is meaningless.

For the Church, this is their first step on a long road to redemption. For those affected, this is a moment to reflect on these words, then ask the Church to provide real and tangible support.

For this apology to carry weight and be meaningful, it must be bolstered by measures which will help all survivors of the atrocities committed.

We look forward to collaborating with the Church to ensure they provide suitable measures and that their efforts meet or exceed expectations.

The Church has shown that it is able to begin the long journey from wrongdoing to contrition.

We welcome their first step on that path.

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