

**Looking to make
a difference?**

**Become a foster carer
with Family Care.**



FamilyCare

Healing pasts • Building futures

Your fostering journey starts right here.

Every child deserves a loving, supportive home. We're here to help make that happen.

Foster carers play a life-changing role in shaping young lives, and we're delighted you're considering joining our dedicated community. At Family Care, we're family-owned and run, committed to providing exceptional support and guidance to our foster carers. Our goal is to create safe, nurturing environments where children can heal, grow and thrive.

What is foster care?

Foster care provides temporary homes for children and young people who cannot live with their birth families. This can be due to various reasons, such as family illness, relationship breakdown, or safeguarding concerns. At Family Care, we offer several types of fostering:

- **Short-term fostering:** Providing care for a few days, weeks, or months.
- **Long-term fostering:** Offering a stable home for children who are unlikely to return to their birth families.
- **Respite care:** Providing short breaks for other foster carers or families.
- **Emergency fostering:** Providing immediate care in urgent situations.

The fostering process can take as little as our months and typically involves an initial enquiry, application, assessment, training and matching with a child. We'll be with you every step of the way.

Our fostering process in three simple stages.

Here's a look at what your journey to becoming a foster carer with us looks like. We've broken it down into three main stages, and we'll be there to support you every step of the way.

Stage 1: Application

Your journey begins with a friendly, no-obligation chat with our team to answer your initial questions. We'll then arrange a visit to your home to get to know you a little better in a relaxed setting. If you feel fostering is right for you and we agree, the final step in this stage is simply completing your application form to move forward.

Stage 2: Assessment

This is where we work together to build a full picture of the skills and support you can offer. We'll help you complete necessary background checks (like DBS) and gather references. You'll also attend our 'Skills to Foster' training course, which is a great way to learn and meet other applicants. During this time, a dedicated assessor will work closely with you, visiting you at home to prepare a report that highlights your strengths.

Stage 3: Approval

In this final stage, you'll be invited to meet our fostering panel, a group of people who will review your assessment report and make a formal recommendation. Following the final decision from our agency, we officially welcome you as an approved foster carer! You'll be introduced to your own dedicated supervising social worker, and you'll be ready to change a child's life.



Give a child the home they deserve.

Every child deserves to feel safe and supported.

Children come into care for many reasons, but all need stability, understanding and a place to feel secure. Some have experienced trauma, neglect or emotional difficulties. Others simply need a temporary home while their families work through challenges.

- Many need help managing their emotions and building positive relationships.
- Some have additional learning needs or require extra support in school.
- We also care for sibling groups, ensuring they can stay together.

As a foster carer, you can provide the safety and stability they need to flourish.



Scan here and take the first steps to foster today.



Naomi and Dave's story.

My husband and I initially began thinking about fostering after having our two children; at the time they were 2 and 3 years old.

It had long been a dream of mine to offer a child the security of a loving home and I was very lucky that my husband also shared my view.

We chose to foster with Family Care because of its friendly close-knit feel. The assessment process took some time but it was thorough and it was not nearly as intimidating as I thought it might be.

We had support and guidance from a wonderful social worker, who was open, honest and always available to us during the process. The ongoing training that Family Care deliver has helped immensely with understanding and supporting the young people that have come into our care.

Once we were approved it didn't take long for us to have a child matched to us.

Our first placement was a 13 year old girl who stayed with us for 12 months. My children loved having a big sister around. We're now 10 years on and we are still in contact with her!

Our second placement was a 9 year old boy. Over the 9 years he has lived with us he has grown and matured into a wonderful young man. With our support he has managed to succeed in everything he has put his mind to. He is currently undertaking training with the RAF, an achievement by anyone's standards.

Fostering is challenging; it's hard work mentally and emotionally but there are rewards in bucket loads if you can stick with it – it's changed our lives.

As foster carers we feel we have made a real difference to two children's lives. We have given them safety, security, love and understanding when they have needed it most and for that they have made the massive step of accepting us into their hearts.

“the rewards are there in bucket loads if you stick with it. It's changed our lives.”



Why foster with Family Care?

At Family Care, we understand that fostering is a rewarding but demanding role.

That's why we're committed to providing unparalleled support to our foster carers:

- **Comprehensive training:** We offer pre-approval training and ongoing development opportunities to equip you with the skills and knowledge you need.
- **24/7 support:** Our dedicated team of social workers is available around the clock to provide guidance and support whenever you need it.
- **Competitive financial support:** We pay a foster carer fee and a boarding out fee at Family Care. The fees are based on a variety of things such as your experience of fostering and the age of the children in your care. Currently foster carers with us are eligible for up to £566 per week, per child.
- **Local support groups and networks:** Connect with other foster carers in your area, share experiences and build a supportive community.
- **Dedicated Supervising Social Worker:** You'll have a dedicated social worker who will provide regular supervision and support.

Taking the next steps.

Ready to make a difference?

Contact us today to learn more about becoming a foster carer with Family Care:

- Visit our website: family-care.co.uk/fostering
- Call us: **0800 567 7677**
- Email us: info@family-care.co.uk

We hold regular information events and welcome informal chats. Take the first step towards an incredibly rewarding journey.





For further information please visit **family-care.co.uk/fostering**

Phone **0800 567 7677** Email **info@family-care.co.uk**

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