



The Assessment Process

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Initial Enquiry

We will be transparent from the moment we advertise, outlining clearly what criteria we are looking for and how to apply with us. We will gather information from you relating to your experience and family and why you are interested in fostering. We will share information with you about our organisation and you are encouraged to ask questions too.

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Step 2- Initial Home Visit

A Social Worker from our Agency will arrange a visit to your home to meet with you and your family. This is an opportunity to discuss any questions you may have, get to know you and view the room(s) you have available for fostering.

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Skills to Foster Training

This course is designed to give you a more in-depth view of what fostering is all about. It usually includes input from current foster carers who will "tell it like it is". It should also help you decide whether you want to move to the next step. Workshops are usually quite relaxed and are an opportunity to meet other people who are also interested in fostering.

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Fostering Application Form

If after reading the information pack, you wish to go ahead, you will be asked to complete the application form and return it to our office. This is quite detailed and you are encouraged to answer all questions as honestly as possible.

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Stage 1 Assessment [Statutory Checks]

This includes DBS, Local Authority, Health, References, NSPCC, Employment checks, etc.

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Stage 2 Assessment [Quality Skills-Your Portfolio]

With our support, you will be asked to complete your fostering handbook detailing your relevant experience, skills and abilities. This will form a part of your Panel Assessment.

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Form F to Panel

Your dedicated Social Worker will work closely with you to ensure that you are fully trained and ready to take on the role of fostering. Your Social worker will also prepare a detailed 'Form F' report on you and your household. After this, your social worker will present you to the Panel (which is a group of professionals in the Social Care arena) for assessment and recommendation to the Agency Decision Maker.

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The Approval Stage

Your recommendation is then sent to the Agency Decision Maker who will have the final say on your approval.