

YOUR CAREER IN FOSTERING

COMMUNICATING CLEARLY

We are happy to translate on request and provide information and publications in other formats, including braille, tape or large print.

如有需要我們樂意提供翻譯本，和其他版本的資訊與刊物，包括盲人點字、錄音帶或大字體。

Zapewnimy tłumaczenie na żądanie oraz dostarczymy informacje i publikacje w innych formatach, w tym Braillem, na kasecie magnetofonowej lub dużym drukiem.

ਅਸੀਂ ਮੇਰਾ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਪੁਸ਼ੀ ਨਾਲ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਅਤੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰਾਂਗੇ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਕਿ ਬਰੈਲ, ਟੇਪ ਜਾਂ ਵੱਡੀ ਛਪਾਈ ਸਾਮਲ ਹਨ।

Körler için kabartma yazılar, kaset ve büyük nüshalar da dahil olmak üzere, istenilen bilgileri sağlamak ve tercüme etmekten memnuniyet duyuyoruz.

اگر آپ چاہیں تو ہم خوشی سے آپ کو ترجمہ فراہم کر سکتے ہیں اور معلومات اور دستاویزات کے نسخوں میں مشاغل (انجینئرز) کے لیے ترجمہ سے تعارف کی کتابوں میں، ٹیپ پر یا بڑے حرف کی کتابوں میں فراہم کر سکتے ہیں۔

The sinn toilichte eadar theangachadh ma thèid iarraidh agus fiosrachadh agus foillseachaidhean a thoirt seachad ann an cruthan eile.

Contact 0131 270 7500 or email: communications@midlothian.gov.uk



For more information please contact the duty worker at the Family Centred Care Team on: **0131 270 5678** or familycentredcareduty@midlothian.gov.uk
www.midlothian.gov.uk/fostering

**“I’m lucky, I live with
a local foster carer.”**
FOSTER MIDLOTHIAN



Initial Visit

If you express an interest in any of our services, you will be visited at home by a social worker from the Family Placement Team. The worker will talk with you about the realities of foster care, what we expect from our carers and the training you will receive. This is an opportunity for you to ask any questions you might have, but the duty worker from the team is always available on the phone during office hours Monday to Friday, if you need any further information.

The Assessment Process

If you then want to pursue your application, you will be invited to attend a series of preparation groups. There is no obligation on your part to continue with a fostering application after the initial visit or once you have attended the group.

This will be an opportunity for you to learn about all aspects of fostering and to consider whether fostering is right for you.

The purpose of the group preparation is twofold:

- To give you more information about the carers task which will enable you to decide if this is right for you and your family, and
- an opportunity to develop your skills for the task.

We will run six sessions, each lasting two hours. Some group sessions are held on weekday evenings, others combine two sessions together at weekends. We will cover topics and issues which include:

- What do foster carers?
- Identity and life chances
- Working with others
- Understanding children in foster care
- Safer caring
- Transitions

If at this stage you decide that you would like to make a formal application, you will need to complete an application form and return it to the Family Placement Team. This form will include you giving your consent to medical and relevant police checks. We will also request two personal references and employment references.

You will then be allocated a social worker from the Family Placement Team, and it will be their task to carry out the home study. The home study is an assessment of you, your family and your lifestyle. It will enable us to assess your suitability to become a foster carer and your parenting skills. Together we will decide how many foster children you could have, their gender and age group.

The home study involves the worker visiting you and your family at home over a period of a few months. If you have a partner they will be interviewed separately to ensure fostering is right for you both. If you have children we include them in the home study process.

Once the home study is completed you will be asked to appear before the fostering panel who will make a recommendation to the agency decision-maker who makes the final decision about your application.

If you are approved you will be able to have foster children placed with you once written confirmation is available.

Your Career in Fostering

Midlothian Council recognises the valuable service of carers and provides a comprehensive training plan for foster carers as well as providing financial payment and allowances to cover the cost of caring for a child.

Please see the enclosed leaflet to understand more about the payment structure.