

What is fostering?

Our dedicated foster carers look after children and in some cases will help work to reunite them with their families. Where this is not possible carers will provide long term family based placements and will help children move onto independent living.

What is fostering?

Fostering means that the child or young person in your care will remain the legal responsibility of the local child protection department and/or their birth parents. This is different to adoption, where the legal rights of a child are permanently transferred to their adoptive parents.

Some children may maintain strong bonds with their birth families, which may take the form of regular face-to-face or telephone contact. In some cases, parents may continue to be involved in any important decisions that are made about their child's welfare or education.

Could I be a foster carer?

Our foster carers come from all types of backgrounds and we welcome carers of any race, sexual orientation, employment and home ownership status. We're looking for people who can provide a safe, caring and supportive environment for vulnerable children and young people.

Fostering is a big decision and takes high levels of commitment and patience. You'll need an enthusiastic approach, bags of energy and a genuine desire for making a positive and lasting difference to the lives of children and young people in care.

You'll also need to be over the age of 25, have a spare bedroom in your home and be able to meet the needs of the child/ren in your care.

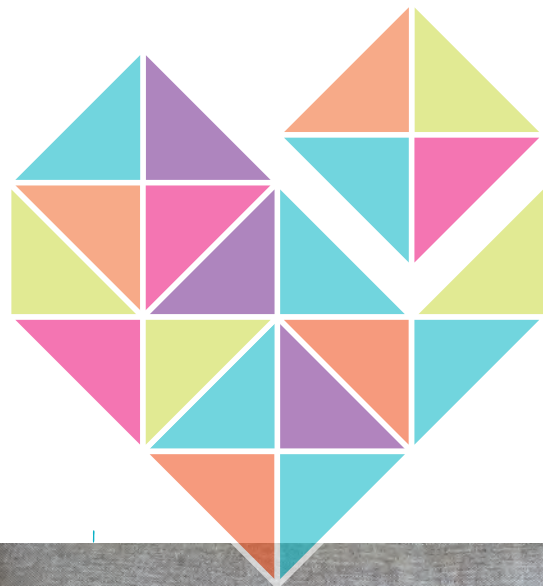
In return, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that you're making a real difference to children who desperately need a foster family to care for them.

Why do children come into care?

Children and young people who come into foster care have experienced physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect. Neglect means that children's basic needs have not been met and children may therefore not have developed the skills expected for a child of their age. Children may have come from homes where there is violence between adults and their parents may face a range of challenges related to drug and alcohol issues, mental illness or homelessness.

Children entering care also experience the trauma of separation from their families and will experience grief and loss. Our experience is that these challenges can be reduced if brothers and sisters remain together in foster care.

Children in care may express their feelings through difficult or challenging behaviour. Some may be clingy or have tantrums. Others will be withdrawn and find it difficult to build trusting relationships with adults. Even if they seem happy and smiling, their past experiences will almost certainly have an effect on their behaviour and development.



Caring with Key Assets

How do we work?

At Key Assets we have a unique approach to fostering that encourages foster carers and professionals to work together in the best interest of the child. We call this the Key Care Team Model. Our dedicated team of professionals build collaborative and trusting relationships with carers, that focuses on developing their skills and capacity and nurturing their competence and confidence. Offering carers the support, coaching and training they need to provide stable and successful placements for children and young people they look after.

What kind of support do we offer?

Caring for children can be rewarding yet a demanding journey, but don't worry, you're not alone, we'll support you every step of the way.

You'll receive regular visits and ongoing support and coaching from a dedicated qualified social worker. Your social worker will support you in prioritising issues, setting goals and working through projects that matter to you so that you can achieve the outcomes you want for your family.

For children and young people identified as having more complicated needs we'll also provide the support of a child and young person support worker and therapist to help promote the needs of the young person in your care.

We offer fostering allowances, 24/7 support and the opportunity for you to enhance your skills through ongoing training opportunities. You'll also receive extra benefits, including paid respite, access to carer support groups and organised family activities.

The most recent Child Protection data reports that nationally there are over 45,000 children in foster care. In Tasmania there are over 1331 children in care. Unfortunately, this figure is predicted to increase and we need more foster carers.

I'm interested in fostering. What is the next step?

Call or email us directly. We'd love to hear from you.

T: 1800 932 273

E: Tasmania@keyassets.com.au



What next?

Children living in your community need your help.

Are you ready to
take the next step?



Yes

I am ready to talk to a
member of the team

*Visit our enquiry page and
answer a few questions and
one of our friendly team will
be in contact to discuss the
application process with you.*

www.canifoster.com.au



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Shop 50 Channel Court
Shopping Center,
29 Channel Hwy, Kingston
TAS 7050

Launceston

Suite 1/111, St John Street,
Launceston TAS 7250

Devonport

Level 1, 17 Rooke Street,
Devonport TAS 7310

Tel: 1800 WE CARE (1800 932 273)

keyassets.org.au