

THE FOSTERING TASK

Caring for Children

1. That you can give a good standard of care to a child in respect of their health, and their physical, sexual, and intellectual development.
2. That you accept the child as s/he is and that they will be different from you.
3. That you can listen to and talk to a child according to the child's age and understanding.
4. That you can understand a child's behaviour and manage it. That you can set boundaries for the child.
5. That you know and can use a range of methods for dealing with difficult behaviour, excluding the use of physical punishment.
6. That you can promote a child's educational achievements working with the designated teachers, the school and others in education.

Providing a Safe and Care Home

1. That you can ensure the child will be safe from harm and abuse.
2. That you know how to seek help if the child is in danger.
3. That you understand why the child may be particularly vulnerable to abuse, especially if they have already experienced this and/or is a disabled child.

Working as Part of a Team and the Wider Community

1. That you can work well with parents and other family members who are important to a child. That you can work well with other professional staff and organisations and act as an advocate for the child.
2. That you can communicate effectively. You can promote contact when it is in the child's best interest.
3. That you can keep information confidential.
4. That you can understand the effects of discrimination and racism.
5. That you can promote equality, diversity and the rights of individuals.
6. That you can work with the department and contribute to care plans and assessments

Fostering – Part of a Life Experience

1. That you can accept, understand, respect and preserve the child's past history and family background, and that both will be meaningful to the child all their life.
2. That you understand that fostering is part of a life experience that can last for a short period of time or for a whole childhood.
3. That you can understand and support a child's teenage years and can help them towards adulthood and independence.

Own Development

1. That you can appreciate how your personal experiences have affected you and your family, and how fostering will have an impact on all of you.
2. That you understand the importance of having strong support in your extended family and community to help you with the task of fostering.
3. That you will use training and development opportunities offered by the fostering team and other agencies to improve you skills.
4. That you can keep going through stressful periods but that you will also ask for support.