

WORCESTERSHIRE
CHILDREN FIRST
Fostering



COULD YOU BE A BUDDY FOSTER CARER?

Become a Buddy Foster Carer with Worcestershire Children First Fostering. We are looking for people who can provide care to a looked-after child on a flexible part-time basis.

A weekend, a weekday evening, a week during the school holidays are you available? Can you provide regular short breaks to a local fostering family?

If this is something that you have an interest in, you can contact us today by visiting www.worcestershire.gov.uk/fostering or call us on **0800 028 2158**.

Buddy Foster Carers will offer children and young people the opportunity to live with them for short but regular periods of time giving them a positive, consistent, stable, and safe place to have time out from their usual foster care or internal residential care provision.

Buddy Foster Carers may be interested in fostering but are not able to do this full time due to other commitments. The minimum availability of a Buddy Foster Carer will be 12 weekends a year and a one-week holiday. In exceptional cases, there may be an additional need for an emergency short break with the Buddy Foster Carer.

As a Buddy Foster Carer:

- You will need to live in Worcestershire.
- Undertake the Foster Carer assessment and mandatory training programme.
- You will be valued and supported by our fostering services and you will receive opportunities for non-mandatory training, receive regular support visits and an annual review
- Have an agreed calendar of dates and times for the young person stays and contact so that you can manage your time well in advance.
 - Need to have dedicated sleeping space for the young person.
 - Need to be available for the child/young person and not work during the times you are acting as carer so that the child can really experience your care, time, and attention.
- You may or may not have children of your own but you will have a love of children and a commitment to helping them be happy healthy and safe.
- You will be paid for the time you are caring for the young person and the training session you attend.

