



INFORMATION GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS





A Message from the Director of Rising Stars

We sincerely appreciate your interest in Rising Stars Fostering.

At Rising Stars, our foster carers and the children they care for are central to our decision-making and improvements in service. Our primary objective is to guarantee the safety and well-being of you, your family, and the children in your care. We provide essential tools and support to help you excel in your role as foster carer.

Our mission is to ensure that the children entrusted to us feel secure, receive encouragement for their dreams, and are guided through challenges as they transition into adulthood.

Together, we embark on a journey of transformation and growth, where every child is seen, heard, and valued. Our commitment extends beyond mere words; it is reflected in the comprehensive training programs, 24/7 support, and community engagement initiatives we offer. We believe that by investing in our foster carers, we are fostering a brighter future for the children and young people in our care.

As part of the Rising Stars family, you are never alone. We encourage open communication and continuously seek your feedback to improve our services. Your insights and experiences are invaluable as we strive to create a nurturing environment where every child can thrive.

Thank you for being an integral part of this incredible journey. Together, we are making a lasting impact in the lives of so many. Let's continue to inspire and nurture the stars of tomorrow.

Launch Dreams, Nurture Stars with Rising Stars Fostering.

Amel Bensmail

We Launch Dreams & Nurture Stars

We are an independent fostering agency that warmly invites prospective foster parents.

We offer 24/7 support and tailored training to equip you for caring for young people in care.

At Rising Stars, the outcomes for children are central to every decision we make, and the voices of our carers drive the enhancement of our services.

Our dedicated team works tirelessly to ensure that each child finds a loving and supportive home where they can flourish. We believe that fostering is not just about providing a temporary home; it's about creating lasting, positive impacts on young lives.

By joining our community, you'll be part of a network that values compassion, understanding, and commitment. You'll have access to a wealth of resources, including peer support groups and ongoing educational opportunities, all designed to help you succeed in your fostering journey.

Together, let's make a difference and help every child we care for reach their full potential. Whether you're new to fostering or have years of experience, Rising Stars is here to support you every step of the way.

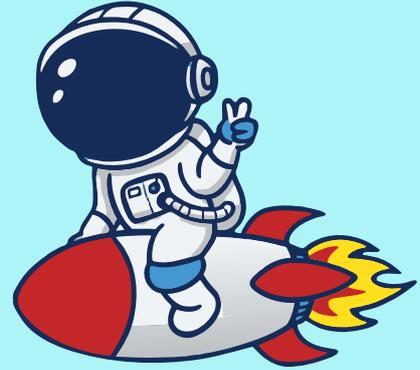


Our Values



Launching dreams

We empower children to achieve the best possible outcomes.



Aligning Stars

We create the perfect connections between foster parents and children.



Overcoming obstacles

We collaborate as a team to navigate challenges centered around the child.



What is fostering?

When children and young people cannot live with their birth parents or relatives, fostering offers them the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing family environment.

Fostering has the power to transform lives. It provides children who have experienced hardship or uncertainty with consistency, care, and the belief that a brighter future is within reach.

With the love and support of foster families, children gain a sense of belonging and security – foundations that are essential for their emotional and psychological wellbeing. Foster care not only meets their immediate needs but also helps them build confidence, develop life skills, and form positive, trusting relationships.

Foster carers are at the heart of this journey. Through their patience, guidance, and understanding, they open doors to new opportunities and help children flourish. Together, as a community, we can ensure every child has the chance to thrive, grow, and succeed.

You will invite a child or young person to join your family and live in your home. Your role will be to support them in leading happy and healthy lives, whether for a short or long-term stay.

Eligibility

- Must be at least 21 years old (you can legally apply starting at 18)
- A full-time resident in the UK, possess leave to remain, or be eligible to work
- Able to dedicate time to caring for a child or young person, typically on a full-time basis
- Committed to participating in training and support groups
- Have a spare bedroom that is sufficiently spacious for a child or young person to reside in
- Possession of a driving license is preferred, but not mandatory

Earn up to £950 per week

Payment helps cover the cost of caring for a child. This includes food, clothing, activities and household bills.

The allowance ensures the child's needs are fully met without placing financial strain on the carer.

Enrich your life and young people who need your help.

Every child brings their own strengths, personality, and potential, and with your support, they can grow in confidence and thrive.

Help fight larger societal problems

Break the cycle of trauma and disadvantage

Improve educational outcomes

Promote social inclusion and equality

Build a bigger, loving family

Foster carers build a bigger and more loving family by opening their homes and hearts to children who need stability, understanding, and care.

Help children to build self-esteem and set future goals

Foster carers play a vital role in helping children develop healthy self-esteem and a positive sense of who they are. Many children entering care have experienced instability, loss, or trauma, which can affect their confidence and belief in their own abilities.

THE PROCESS

Initial enquiry:
We take some basic information about you and your family to ensure you qualify to become a carer.

Application Form:
You need to fill in the application form asking you for more information so we can begin an application.

Home visit: We will visit to check the room and complete health and safety check of the home.

Panel: You will attend a meeting where independent people will read your assessment and make a recommendation

Form F: A social worker will complete an assessment about life experiences your skills

Instigating checks:
We complete background checks, DBS, medical and references.

Approval: Congrats now you are approved. Welcome to Rising Stars!

First Placement: You have your first placement Well Done



Different to Adoption

When exploring fostering and adoption, it's important to understand the key differences between the two.

Fostering is usually a temporary arrangement, whereas adoption is a permanent legal process. Foster carers do not hold parental responsibility for the child; this remains with the local authority or birth parents. In contrast, adoptive parents become the child's legal guardians for life. Children in long-term foster care may continue to have contact with their birth family, while adoption legally ends those ties and fully integrates the child into their new family.

Fostering also provides a monthly allowance to support the child's needs, and foster carers receive 24/7 support from the fostering agency and social workers. This level of ongoing support is not offered in the same way to adoptive parents, who are expected to manage independently once the adoption is finalised.

Understanding these distinctions is essential for anyone deciding which path is right for them. Fostering can be incredibly rewarding, offering children a safe and supportive environment where they can grow emotionally, socially, and academically. It involves close collaboration with social services and requires flexibility, empathy, and a willingness to meet each child's unique needs.

Both fostering and adoption play vital roles in providing loving, stable homes for children. Each comes with its own challenges and rewards, and individuals or families should carefully consider their strengths, resources, and long-term goals to determine the best fit for them and the children they hope to support.



MYTHS vs FACTS

I don't own my home, I can't foster →

Each child must have their own bedroom with enough space for a bed, chest of drawers, and a desk. This can be in a rented, council or owned home.

I would have to give up my job... →

Arrangements can often be made with your employer to accommodate both work and fostering.

I am single I cant foster →

Even if you are single you still can foster. We need all carers from all different background to look after children

I cant have a say on children that come to my house →

We can not place a child with you unless you agree to it. It is imporant to ensure you are onboard with the type of placement you take

You need to be married to foster →

Foster carers come from all walks of life. Single people, couples, LGBTQ+ carers, and people with or without children can all foster. What matters is your ability to provide a safe, stable, and loving home.

Foster children are difficult →

Children come into care because of what has happened to them, not because of their behaviour. With stability, understanding, and trauma-informed care, they can thrive.



Why choose us?



Generous
weekly
allowance

24/7 support
from Social
Workers

Culturally
sensitive
assessment and
support

Strong values
and transparent
management

Dedicated
placement
matching team

We act on your
feedback to
improve services

Regular Support
group meetings
with Directors

Personalised
training and
development

Direct access to
Senior
Management

**There is no such thing as a flawless foster parent
— what truly matters is the willingness to show
up, care, and keep trying.**

**The time, love, and effort you invest in a young
person will always be worthwhile. When**





0203 488 5464



www.risingstarsfostering.com