Fostering in Redbridge

My Guide

Family & Friends

Age

Name
What is family and friends foster care?

Family and friends foster care is when children and young people who cannot live with their parent/s go to live with another member of their family or a friend, someone who they are already connected to. This is called family and friends foster care.

Why do children and young people live with family and friends foster carers?

Children and young people live with family and friends foster carers when the family they usually live with is having some difficulties and cannot look after one or all of their children.

Children and young people who live with family and friends foster carers are called ‘Looked After Children’ because someone else is looking after them. This is also called ‘Being in Care’.

Who are family and friends foster carers?

Family and friends foster carers are adults who children and young people already know. They may be a family member or friend and it has been agreed that they will be the foster carer for the child or young person that they know.
What are some of your wishes?

I wish…

I wish…

I wish…

I wish…

I wish…

I wish…

What do family and friends foster carers do?

They keep you safe. They listen to your concern or worries and talk to you about how to keep safe both at home and outside. They will talk to you about relationships and help you to make positive choices. Family and friends foster carers will help you to do well at school and college and help to make sure that you are healthy.

They will also help you think about the things you may want to do like playing a sport, making music or following other interests.

Your family and friends foster carers will give you pocket money and show you how to save money. They will take you to interesting places and help you to enjoy yourself and have friendships.
What is it like in a family and friends foster home?

A family and friends foster home is a warm house or flat where you may have your own bedroom. Family and friends foster homes have televisions and computers which you can use.

Living with family and friends foster carers

Your family and friends foster carers will welcome you into their home, want to find out about you and hear what questions you have, so you can get to know each other.

They will spend time talking to you about some of the rules in your family and friends foster home, like the times when you can watch TV, use the computer, bedtime and dinner time.

What is a social worker?

Social workers are there to listen to you, help you and make sure that you are safe. When you see your social worker, they will ask you how you are. If you are unhappy about anything you must tell your social worker. Also tell them about the things that make you feel happy.

They will see you at your foster home, see your bedroom and may also take you out on your own.
Your social worker will ask you how you are feeling. You can write or draw something about happy or sad feelings or maybe both. Whatever you are feeling this is okay, everyone feels a bit different.

Have I done something wrong?
Is that why I live in a foster care?

**No, you are not bad and you have done nothing wrong.**

What is your Social Workers name? __________
What is their phone number? __________

**What is going to happen next?**

Your family and friends foster carer and your social worker will talk to you about your feelings and explain why you are living in foster care.

You need to say what you would like to happen. Your family and friends foster carers and your social worker will talk to you about what is going to happen next.
When will you see your family?

Your family and friends foster carer and social worker will talk to you about your family. When you see your family it is sometimes called ‘contact’.

What if you are unhappy and you need to tell someone?

Think about who you could tell; maybe someone from your family, your family and friends foster carer, your social worker or your teacher.

This diagram shows some of the people who listen to your wishes and feelings and make plans with you. You are the most important person there in the middle.
How many words can you find?

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- Hope
- Contact
- Looked After
- In Care
- Foster
- Music
- Art
- School
- Friends
- Money
- Happy
- Love
- Fashion
- Future

How many words can you find?
Contacts for you in London Borough of Redbridge

Redbridge Fostering Service
Telephone: 020 8708 7528
Email: fostering@redbridge.gov.uk

Redbridge Adoption Service
Telephone: 020 8708 7459
Email: adoptionteam@redbridge.gov.uk

Specialist Nurse for Looked After Children
Telephone: 020 8708 8202

Virtual School Service
Telephone: 020 8708 3913
Email: Class@redbridge.gov.uk

Children’s Rights Advocate
Telephone: 020 8708 5811
Email: childrens.rights@redbridge.gov.uk

Children’s Participation Officer
Telephone: 020 8708 7894
Email: YPLAFH@redbridge.gov.uk

Complaints
Telephone: 020 8708 5268 / 020 8708 5174
Email: Childrens.Complaints@redbridge.gov.uk

Office of the children’s Rights
Telephone: 0800 528 0731
Website: www.rights4me.org.uk

Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith St,
London SW1P 3BT
Telephone: 0370 000 2288

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate, Store Street,
Manchester M1 2WD
Telephone: 0300 123 1231
Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

NSPCC
Telephone: 0800 11 11
Website: www.nspcc.org.uk

Childline
Telephone: 0800 11 11
Website: www.childline.org.uk

Kidscape
Telephone: 08451 205 204
Website: www.kidscape.org.uk

Voice
Telephone: 0808 800 5792
Email: info@voiceyp.org

Other useful contacts

The Children’s Society
Telephone: 020 7841 4400
Website: www.childrenssociety.org.uk

The who cares Trust?
Telephone: 020 7251 3117
Website: www.thewhocarestrust.org.uk

Brook Advisory centre
Telephone: 0808 802 1234
Website: www.brook.org.uk