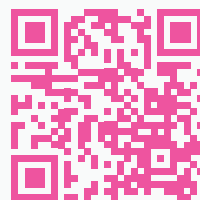




Kristy Smith
Carer Ambassador

Be a Foster Carer

Ask me how



My name is Kristy Smith and, along with my husband, I am a Foster Carer. Between us, we have seven children of our own aged eleven years to adults.

We started fostering five years ago as we wanted to make a difference to children who needed a safe place to stay. Since then, we have fostered fifteen children, mostly providing respite and short-term care, but now we also have one long-term, full-time child in our care.

A great way to learn more about foster care is through the first-hand experience of carers. By sharing my story, I hope to give you a real insight into what it means to be a Foster Carer and why fostering could be the most rewarding thing you will ever do.

For an in-depth, open and honest account of my experience as a Foster Carer, scan the QR code above to watch my video.

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BARRIERS**

Share your world

Be a Foster Carer

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why?

The most common question I get asked when people find out I am a Foster Carer is “why?”

We had a lot of love to give, and as teachers we had experience and knowledge about child development, trauma and how to support young people to reach their full potential. We wanted to use this to help the children who most need it.

I’ve heard people say “you can’t save them all” as a reason not to foster. My response is, “but I can make a difference to this one child”. None of us can do it all, but if we all step forward and do something, together we can make a big difference!

What are the highlights?

The little things mean the most, like seeing the grin on a child’s face when you help them successfully read a reader when they didn’t think they could do it, or having a child open up and share information that they haven’t felt safe sharing with anyone else before.

It’s so exciting to see those little steps forward.

Would you do it again?

Definitely! In fact, I wish we’d started sooner.

We’ve seen the evidence that we can make a difference in children’s lives, that we can change the trajectory of a child’s life and break the cycle of trauma, abuse and dysfunction that affects some children. So why wouldn’t we?

Could I be a Foster Carer?

Life Without Barriers welcomes carers who are single or partnered, working or retired, with or without children, from any cultural background, sexuality or religion.

To become a Foster Carer your ability to care for and nurture a child is what really matters. The team at Life Without Barriers will chat with you about your personal situation to see if foster care is the right fit for you.

If you are considering fostering and think you are ready, then do it. Do it now. Explore the options and start the process.

More info:

To contact me for a personal chat about foster care:

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