

Support for foster carers

We will support you every step of the way, and offer the following to all our foster carers:

- Induction programme for new foster carers
- Excellent training and development opportunities
- A generous allowance and fee from £364.48 to £432.60 per week depending on the age of the child
This is above the government's minimum weekly allowance
- Start-up equipment (where applicable)
- Consideration is given to how the child will fit into your family when making placements
- Regular visits and phone calls from your supervising social worker
- Close working with our dedicated team of clinical psychologists
- Out-of-hours support during evenings and weekends
- Support from other council services, such as education, health and wellbeing
- Access to fostering support groups, where carers meet and share their experiences, find advice and network
- Free membership with The Fostering Network which offers a 24-hour helpline, discounts for foster carers, plus access to the Hillingdon Foster Carers Association which provides peer support from other local foster carers
- Regular organised events including our annual Foster Carers' Celebration



"Nothing has been better than watching these children grow and become something. It really is the most rewarding thing I've ever done."

Daren from Uxbridge

"It's so rewarding when you make a difference and you see the children just blossom."

Jayne and Ernie from Hayes

"Watching each child grow and seeing the end result instils a real sense of pride, but the biggest reward is seeing a child happy and safe."

Zena from Hillingdon



Make a difference... to a child's life

Find out more

Keep an eye out on our website for fostering information events and events out in the community.

@ fosteringrecruitment@hillington.gov.uk

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/fostering

0800 783 1298

Hillingdon Council Fostering Service
Civic Centre , High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW



Make a difference to a child's life

We need people in the community to offer a safe, stable and loving family environment to children who cannot live at home.

Fostering a child is one of the most rewarding things that you can do in your life, and Hillingdon Council welcomes people from all backgrounds and stages in life.

What is fostering?

To foster is to look after someone else's child or children in your own home when their family is unable to care for them.

Foster carers provide a stable family environment for a child, while the council works with their family to try to resolve issues so that the child can hopefully return home or move to live with a family member.

Sometimes children are unable to return home and will need to have a family care for them long term.

Foster carers can look after single children, brothers and sisters, and some foster carers look after several children at the same time.

Why do children need foster carers?

A child may need foster care due to a family crisis, parental illness or because they have suffered child abuse or neglect. Some children may have arrived in the UK as unaccompanied minors.

We are looking for foster carers of all ages and backgrounds to care for children from birth to 18-years-old.

Who can foster?

Hillingdon is a diverse borough and we welcome people from all ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, physical abilities and the LGBT+ community. You can be single or in a couple, and can own or rent your home.

Eligibility

- you will need to be an adult aged 25 and above
- you can be from any social, ethnic, cultural or religious background
- you can be single, married or living with a partner, and you can be in a same-sex relationship
- you can be a parent or not, but it's important that you have some previous relevant childcare experience
- you will be committed to caring for someone else's child



- you will have time and space in your life to offer a home to a child
- you will need to have a good network of family or friends to offer practical and emotional support if needed
- you will have suitable accommodation such as a spare bedroom for a child aged two years and above (carers for babies up to two years old can have a cot placed in the foster carer's bedroom if there is sufficient space)
- you will agree to a police check (Disclosure and Barring Service), health assessment and checks with your local authority and others
- you will need to be non-smokers if fostering children under the age of five

You do not need to:

- own your home, but you do need a secure rental tenancy
- live in Hillingdon, but live close enough so you are within travelling distance to the children's schools and other appointments you will attend with the child in your care
- be in employment, but you do need to be financially stable

