

TAMESIDE COUNCIL  
FOSTERING SERVICE

# TAMESIDE COUNCIL FOSTERING SERVICE

NEIGHBOURHOODS PRESENTATION

JUNE 2023



FOSTER FOR TAMESIDE  
CHANGE A LOCAL CHILD'S LIFE

 **Tameside**  
Metropolitan Borough

 **FOSTER**  
FOR TAMESIDE COUNCIL

 **NHS**  
Tameside and Glossop  
Clinical Commissioning Group

# WHAT IS FOSTERING?

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- **Support and care** for a child when they can't live at home
- Providing a **stable and caring** environment.
- Assisting **Contact** – birth parents & other - connected persons
- Getting the child(ren) to **School**
- Attending **Meetings** – reviews, education
- **Training** – developing fostering skills



# WHO CAN FOSTER?

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- You can be **married, co-habiting, single, straight or gay.**
- There is **no upper age limit.**
- You don't need to own your own home, as long as you have a **spare bedroom.**
- Ideally you will **live locally**, in order to transport children to school etc.
- All **ethnic and religious backgrounds** are welcome.



# ONGOING FOSTERING SUPPORT

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- Fostering social workers and support workers
- Social workers for the children
- Foster carer support groups
- Foster Care Association
- Buddy scheme
- Training programme
- Therapeutic services
- Foster care allowances and fees

# WHAT TYPE OF CARERS DO WE NEED?

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- All ages 0-18
- Sibling groups
- Older children (over 5 years of age)
- Teenagers
- Children with complex needs
- Children from a range of ethnic backgrounds
- Children who need fostering on a long term basis





# HOW YOU CAN HELP

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- Word of mouth – spread the word for the need of local foster carers with your neighbourhoods.
- If you know of anyone you think would make a good foster carer, refer them to the fostering team;  
[fosteringenquiries@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:fosteringenquiries@tameside.gov.uk)
- Share our marketing materials (digital pack to be sent round with slides).
- Share our social media posts to help spread our message.



# FOSTERING UNFILTERED

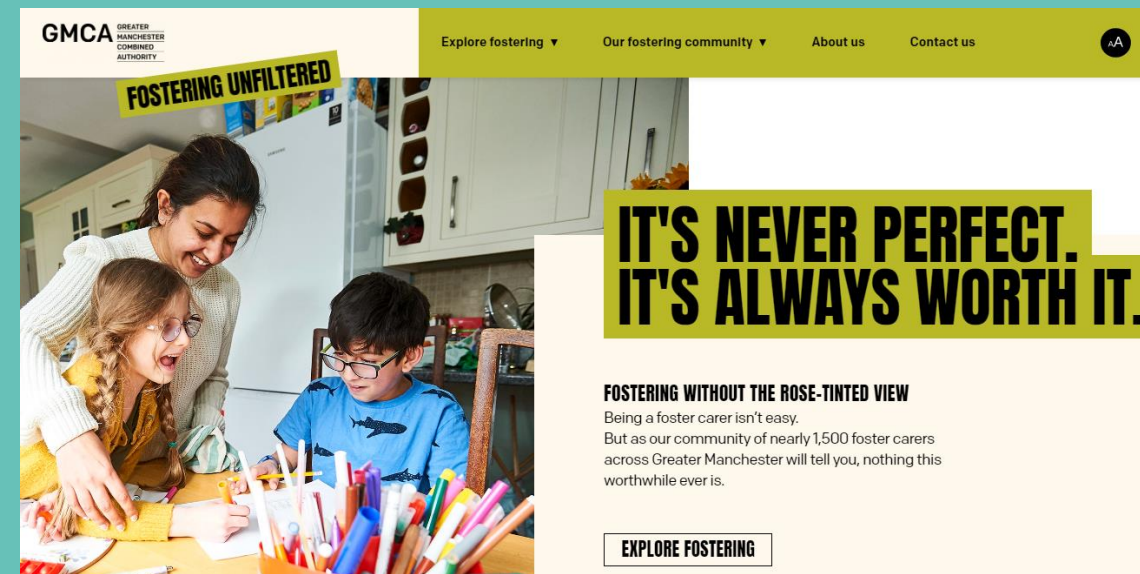
## Fostering Unfiltered

We have been working alongside Greater Manchester Combined Authority to create a brand new fostering campaign called Fostering Unfiltered to help the whole of Greater Manchester recruit more foster carers.

It's been about 18 months in the making and a lot of evidence-based work has taken to place to understand what motivates people to enquire and how people expect to be contacted about fostering.

Images that are being used on the advertising are of real foster carers for Greater Manchester and children that have taken part are children of staff in local authorities who work with fostering families. It is for foster carer by foster carers.

There is a new website for the campaign [Fostering Unfiltered - Home \(fostering-unfiltered.org\)](https://fostering-unfiltered.org) and on there are lots of blogs about fostering that carers from across all 10 Greater Manchester council's have taken part in.





# FOSTER CARE FORTNIGHT 2023

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## Advan campaign

As part of a joint Greater Manchester campaign involving all 10 Local Authorities, we showcased the new 'Fostering Unfiltered' Campaign and our own fostering video in Ashton and Denton, supported by Council Leaders Children's Services & the Fostering Team.



## Foster Carer Ambassadors

We have a new team of 6 foster carer ambassadors who represent the fostering team at local events to help us recruit more foster carers in Tameside. Our new ambassadors enjoyed getting started for Foster Care Fortnight with a range of events and activities.

## Parkrun events

The fostering service hosted 2 Parkrun Takeovers at both Hyde Park and Stamford Park in May as part of Foster Care Fortnight, supported by Council Leaders. We had a fostering stand and engaged local people with conversations about fostering, supported by local press and social media.





# STAYING PUT

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***Staying Put is about care leavers continuing to live with their foster carers when they reach the age of 18.***

Whenever a young person continues to live with their former foster carer in these circumstances, it is referred to as a Staying Put arrangement. Staying Put arrangements continue until the young person completes their education, or stops living in the household before then.

Local authorities also have significant statutory obligations to support care leavers whether or not they participate in Staying Put.

The new policy takes into account:

- Early Planning
- Package & Support for Providers
- Young Person's contribution
- Sharing Life Skills
- University arrangements



# SUPPORTED LODGINGS

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***Supported Lodgings are a form of accommodation that supports vulnerable young people who are not ready or don't wish to live independently just yet.***

The scheme provides places for those young people aged 16 to 21 years. Should the young person be studying at Higher Education the scheme could be extended until their 24<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**The new policy will cover:**

- The criteria for Supported Lodgings Providers (can be families or individuals)
  - Experience and motivation.
  - If there is a spare bedroom to be used solely for the young person.
- Support package for providers
- The agreement between the provider and young person



# THANK YOU & QUESTIONS

If you have any further questions, please contact:  
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