

Opportunity to make a difference to the life of a young person

Brighten up a child's world

About the Scheme

The Teen Scheme is a small specialist team of foster carers who provide care for young people aged 11-18 years old. These young people have had traumatic childhood experiences and consequently their behaviour can sometimes be difficult as they try to make sense of their history.

The scheme aims to increase the social skills, self-maintenance skills and educational competence of these young people. They need to live in a nurturing family environment with foster carers who have the knowledge, understanding and skills to care for and support them unconditionally until they can either return home or live independently.

Who can apply?

To be considered as a foster carer in this scheme you need to demonstrate your abilities and experience in four key areas:

1. Caring for young people and a basic understanding of child development
2. Providing a safe and caring environment which limits the risks some young people may take
3. Working as part of a team
4. Commitment to your own personal development and the development of your skills and understanding in relation to the young person you are caring for.

If you apply as a couple one of you must be at home on a full time basis.

We will offer you:

- £21,000 per annum plus additional maintenance which covers the daily costs of caring for a young person
- Regular contact from a dedicated Fostering Social Worker to provide practical and emotional advice and support
- Support from a multi-professional team which includes a Clinical Psychologist, social workers, experienced foster carers and voluntary sector workers
- Out of hours support from Regional Emergency Social Work Service (includes evenings, weekends, bank holidays)
- Extensive training programme to equip you with transferable skills and the ability to care for a young person
- Opportunity to attend peer support groups to meet other carers doing the same job and share experiences
- Special support from experienced foster carers who look after young people
- Membership of Fostering Network (includes legal cover & advice).

Training

There is an expectation that foster carers within this scheme will avail of the comprehensive training programme that is offered. This includes opportunities for your own personal development as well as training that is specific to the young person you are caring for. Training is delivered in a number of ways eg. group setting, individually and online. Your Fostering Social Worker will advise you of all training that is available and will source specific training that you may require.

Could YOU foster a young person?

“You feel a great sense of achievement and pride when a child has been with you and leaves in a better way than they arrived. It has been a privilege.”

Kieran, Teen Scheme foster carer

Fostering a young person in the Teen Scheme can be demanding and will not suit everyone. If you think you could make a real difference to a young person's life why not have a chat with us to find out more.

If you have the time and space in your life and home; are robust, energetic, empathic and caring we would love to hear from you.

Find out more about the Western Trust's Teen Scheme Foster Care service today:

Call: 028 7131 4244 (L'derry) or 028 8283 5264 (Omagh)

Email: dympna.brogan@westerntrust.hscni.net



www.adoptionandfostering.hscni.net

Could YOU foster?

Brighten up a child's world

The Western Health and Social Care Trust are recruiting foster carers for their new scheme for young people aged 11-18



 Western Health and Social Care Trust

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