

Foster 4 Leeds

Help a Leeds child blossom



Sufficiency of local authority foster carers is a significant national issue. Compared to 2019, there are 1,045 fewer foster households across the country with 5,690 more children in care.

In Leeds, there are currently over 1,500 children in care, with a 7% increase in 2023-24. Currently 355 of these children are in external foster care, in many cases meaning they've had to move outside the Leeds area away from their birth family, friends and school.

Leeds City Council urgently needs more people to foster with its local service, Foster4Leeds, to provide a loving home and help keep Leeds children in the local area. Did you know anyone aged 21 or over with a spare room could potentially foster a child.

Foster4Leeds is 100% not-for-profit and an inclusive organisation, welcoming foster carers from all backgrounds. There are many different types of foster care that Foster4Leeds provides including:

1 SHORT TERM & SHORT BREAKS

Whether people are employed or not in work, single or co-habiting, have children of their own or not, our Foster4Leeds team works with individuals to identify the best type of foster care they can offer depending on their circumstances and needs.

2 LONG TERM CARE

3 EMERGENCY CARE

Support offered by Foster4Leeds is unparalleled to any other fostering agency and includes free courses and online training, a dedicated fostering social worker, free counselling services, and foster care support groups across the city.

4 PARENT & CHILD

Our ambition is for Leeds to be the best city for all our children and young people to grow up in. Child Friendly Leeds is the initiative for everyone who shares this ambition and we can all play our part in making a difference.

We also offer financial support and many other benefits through our enrichment programme such as short breaks and free access to events and activities in the city.

If you would like more information about supporting Foster4Leeds,
please contact: foster4leeds@leeds.gov.uk



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How you can support Foster4Leeds



As a valued partner, Leeds City Council would like to ask for your support with our drive to urgently find more Foster4Leeds foster carers to provide loving homes for children in Leeds.

1

Share our campaigns with your employees, customers & other stakeholders

In addition to our “always on” marketing, we run three key campaigns per year during January, September and May. We need support to reach as many adults as possible living in Leeds and nearby surrounding areas. We are able to supply campaign assets such as: editorials for internal and external newsletters; animated videos, case study videos and other social media assets; web banners; and we can create bespoke assets.

In addition, we would love to be invited to host an information stall or a lunch and learn session in your office or organisations.

2

Contribute to our child friendly enrichment offer

A number of organisations across Leeds contribute to ensuring our foster families feel valued and to provide experiences for foster children that they might not otherwise get to enjoy.

These include free tickets to shows, inspirational workshops, discounted entry to attractions, exclusive tours, free residential days and bespoke experiences to create memories that would last a lifetime. We are always welcoming more offers from organisations.

3

Consider becoming a Foster Friendly employer

Foster Friendly employers recognise and value the contribution that foster carers make to the lives of children in care, and understand that foster carers who do other work in addition to fostering need some flexibility in their working arrangements in order to meet the needs of their fostered child.

They support their employees who are foster carers or going through the process to become one, by giving additional paid time off for assessment, training and review meetings. Other policies such as special leave for emergencies and parental leave, also apply to foster carers.

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