Foster carers look after children and young people in need, caring for them on a daily basis. This includes closely working with social workers and parents and other professionals who are involved in the children’s lives.

**Essential Attributes:**

* Able to make a child feel safe and welcome
* Excellent communication skills
* Time to commit to looking after a vulnerable child or young person. If already working, you must be able to work flexibly around the child’s needs

**Main Responsibilities:**

* Provide a safe and caring home for a vulnerable child or young person and help them to keep themselves safe
* Care for a child or young person to a high standard
* Promote education and maintain a close connection with school
* Committed to working in the best interests of the child or young person
* Work closely with children’s families and others who are important to the child and support contact with a child’s parents and family (if appropriate)
* Work as part of a team with other professionals in accordance with the care plan provided for the child or young person
* Maintain strict confidentiality with regards to the young person or child in your care, ensuring their safety and protection at all times
* Attend regular training
* Provide opportunities, activities, experiences and adventures
* Behave professionally and be accountable for your actions

**Personality strengths:**

* Trustworthy and honesty
* Energy, stamina, commitment and a great support network
* Flexibility – someone who enjoys variety and flexibility in work
* Confidence and optimism – able to get a job done
* Composure – able to think clearly and objectively during times of stress or high pressure and remain calm
* Collaboration – have a sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others; being accepting of differences and other people

**Hours:**

Full time or Part-time (9 sessions a month minimum)

**Satisfaction:**

Guaranteed

**Remuneration:**

Excellent, fostering fees and allowances are usually tax-free.