

Why Choose FCA



0800 023 4561
www.thefca.co.uk



Allowances and Rewards

We recognise the value of our fostering families to our community and want to ensure you are always rewarded for your loyalty with us. Along with a generous fostering allowance, we award two bonus payments of £250 each year in the summer and winter, along with an appreciation bonus of up to £1,000 depending on length of service with us. Not just that, but you'll also receive gifts for each milestone you hit, along with our annual appreciation day with events and days out local to you.

We also provide all our foster parents with access to our rewards platform where you can take advantage of fantastic discounts across hundreds of high street names, online stores and supermarkets.

We Invest More to Improve the Lives of Children

We are more than simply the allowance we give to our foster parents. We ensure we invest back into the services we offer to ensure the very best experiences and outcomes for the young people in our care. Whether that be fun local events, career fairs and workshops, or our biggest event of all: 'The Big Sing Off' choir competition which involves all of the regions throughout FCA. Not forgetting our dedicated Participation Team who actively engage with our children and young people to ensure their voices are heard and responded to.

We Are One of The Most Established Independent Fostering Agencies

Being one of the most reputable agencies mean we are a trusted partner for local authorities throughout the UK. Our services are in high demand across the country, which means once you become an approved foster family with us, it won't be long before you'll be making a difference in a child's life. At FCA we are one big family. Our regional teams and offices up and down the country mean you'll have local support, events and services tailored to you.

Professional Support

Our Out of Hours Support is there for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. When you join us, you'll be joining our community with access to one of the greatest fostering support packages out there. You'll have access to:

- A dedicated supervising social worker
- A referrals teams that concentrate on making quality matches
- Therapists who work with foster parents and staff so that we help our foster parents care therapeutically
- Dedicated out of hours staff that know how to support you if something goes wrong

First-Class Training and Development

Our training programme is second to none. All our foster parents complete a detailed preparation programme that will equip you with all the skills and knowledge you need to be a successful foster parent. You'll also have access to a wealth of complimentary training courses that will continually develop your skills – all of which are tailored to you and your personal development. All our courses are flexible and designed to work around your schedule, with opportunities to learn both online and face-to-face.

Excellent Ofsted Ratings

We know what it takes to reach the pinnacle of success in regards to delivering a fostering service, and as such all our registrations are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. We have achieved this by listening to our staff, foster families and children. If you want to join an organisation that takes pride in striving for Outstanding, then please choose FCA.

Safe and Happy

At FCA we cherish the fact that children have one childhood and we are very proud of our 'Safe and Happy' mantra – a pledge which is now embedded within the culture of FCA and enables us to build a service that is centred around children and young people feeling safe and happy whilst with us.

Carer Buddy

We will allocate you a foster parent buddy so you and your family will benefit from support and guidance from someone who's already been in your shoes. Their own first-hand experience of the fostering journey means they can provide empathic, insightful advice to guide you through the process smoothly.

Why Choose FCA Western

A Family-Feel, Inclusive Agency

Our strength is being a small, close-knit team that gets to know each and every one of our foster parents to provide tailored and personalised support. Every member of our team is committed to get to know our fostering families to build positive, nurturing relationships that provide a wrap-around network of support.

Our central Bristol office location is accessible with great transport links and staffed every day for foster parents. Whether you visit us in person or call us up for some friendly advice, you'll never be talking to a stranger.

Therapeutic Care

We understand that your development as a foster parent is crucially important so that you can offer the children you look after the best trauma-informed care possible. That's why at FCA Western we offer all of our foster parents therapeutic-based training. Incorporating Adapt, Attune and PACE models of care, our training provides foster parents with the tools they need to build strong relationships with their foster children and help them to move through the trauma they have experienced.

We are supported by a team of therapists who are on hand to offer advice and guidance to help you respond to a child's needs with empathy and sensitivity to provide the best levels of care.



Social Worker Support

You'll develop a deep working relationship with your dedicated supervising social worker, who'll support you by visiting regularly, conducting monthly one-to-one supervision meetings, and supporting you to access training.

Support Group Meetings

You'll be invited to regular local support groups to help you build and maintain friendships with other foster parents and access a wider support network. Our longstanding, experienced foster families offer peer support and guidance to newer families joining our team.

Supporting our carers and young people is at the forefront of what we do. We're here for you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Celebrations and Activities

Your entire family is welcome to join us for local activities and celebrations over Christmas, Easter, Halloween and the summer holidays. These are fantastic opportunities for your fostering family to make new friends, build relationships and enjoy a fantastic day out together. We also celebrate all our children's and foster parent's achievements in true show stopping FCA style with big thank-you's such as our children's achievement awards and foster parent appreciation lunches.

Expert Matching

We have an excellent track record for quality matching, ensuring your family and the child in your care will have a successful and happy fostering experience together, giving careful thought to your experience and skills and what the child or young person needs.

Diverse Fostering Opportunities

When it comes to choosing foster parents, factors like your age, gender, sexuality, marital status, faith or ethnicity are not taken into account. We welcome people from all different backgrounds and levels of experience. What matters to us is your dedication to transforming the lives of vulnerable children and making a difference.

We have single foster parents who can offer siblings a home, couples with birth children who support sanctuary-seeking young people, and retired couples supporting teenagers to independence. We celebrate the diversity of our families and offer support to all members of the fostering household and their support network. This could be birth children, grandparents, friends or extended family.



