

# Hello,

## FOSTERING NEWSLETTER



### Welcome to February's 'Thinking About Fostering' Newsletter



Welcome to another issue of our 'Thinking About Fostering' newsletter! This time, we will be focusing on another type of fostering: Supported Lodging Hosts (SLH).

Many people think of fostering as an intensive, full-time role. However, many of our Supported Lodgings Hosts work full time or part time alongside this role. Most of our young people are in education or employment and simply need guidance and support as they grow into adulthood.

You will be fully supported by our team throughout the application stage and beyond, and will receive a weekly payment of **£286.50 per week**, per young person living with you.

Denise Betteridge  
Fostering Recruitment Team Manager

## **Meet Kathy (Supported Lodgings Host)**

Kathy Campbell lives with her husband Arthur in North West Leicestershire. Her two grown up sons have flown the nest.

### **Who lives in your house?**

I live with my husband Arthur and have two young people, a male and a female, one aged 20 who works and the other who is 16 and a full-time student.

### **How long have you been a Supported Lodgings Host?**

Since 2010.

### **How did you become a Supported Lodgings Host?**

Through my son's friend. He was being cared for by a Supported Lodgings Host. I had a coffee with her and then she put me in contact with the Placements Manager.

### **What does a Supported Lodgings Host do?**

I help young people living with me to become independent. We work through a plan together to learn about money management, budgeting, bills, looking after your health and wellbeing as well as cooking. I involve them in my normal everyday family life, so we play games and have family get togethers such as BBQ's and dinners.

### **Have you had any challenges?**

I've had a few challenging times, but my supervising social worker has been very supportive and gave me guidance.

### **What would you say to people thinking about becoming a Supported Lodgings Host?**

I'd encourage people to open their homes. Supported lodgings isn't the same as mainstream foster care, this is more of a supportive role for young people to lead their own lives.

It's so rewarding, it's lovely to see young people become confident and blossom. They say things to me like "you've changed my life, my confidence has gone from very little to amazing. I would not be the person today without your guidance."

**You can meet Kathy and ask questions at our online event on Tuesday 20 February 2024.**

**[Register your place now!](#)**



## 💰 Supported Lodgings Payments

We're proud to offer our foster carers generous remuneration packages in recognition of their skillset, experience, time, and dedication.



**Our Supported Lodgings Hosts** currently receive **£286.50 per week**, per young person in their home, and they can **remain working full time** if they wish.

**Our Supported Lodgings Plus Hosts** currently receive **£562.50 per week**, per young person in their home. This role is designed to offer more dedicated time and attention to the young person, so is ideal for those **not working**, or **working part time** (maximum 16 hours per week).

[Learn more about our payments and allowances!](#)

We understand that figuring out finances is an important part of considering whether to foster - we're here to give you all of the facts you need! Got questions?

Please call the fostering team on **0116 305 0505**, or email [fostering@leics.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@leics.gov.uk)

## 🏳️‍🌈 LGBTQ+ Adoption and Fostering Week

**Monday 4 March 2024 – Friday 8 March 2024**



During the first week of March, we will be supporting LGBTQ+ Adoption and Fostering Week (New Family Social) because, not only is it possible for the LGBTQ+ community to foster with us, but it's also greatly encouraged!

As affiliated members of New Family Social, we are actively working to ensure that our service is as friendly and inclusive as possible.

Get in touch if you have any questions – call **0116 305 0505**, or email [fostering@leics.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@leics.gov.uk)

[Learn more about New Family Social](#)

## Upcoming 'Find Out About Fostering' events

At every information session, we endeavour to give you the information you need to make an informed choice about fostering, including the **application process**, the **support** on offer, and the **allowances** available.

We also welcome one of our **current foster carers**, who goes into detail about the realities of being a foster carer with us.

### Upcoming virtual 'Find Out About Fostering' events

All virtual sessions are held on Microsoft Teams, starting at 6:30pm, with an anticipated finish time of 8:30pm:

- Tuesday 20 February 2024
- Thursday 14 March 2024

### [Book online event](#)

### Upcoming in-person 'Find Out About Fostering' event

All in-person sessions are held at County Hall (Glenfield, LE3 8RA), starting at 6:30pm, with an anticipated finish time of 8:30pm:

- Tuesday 23 April 2024

Free parking is available in the visitors' car park.

We kindly ask all visitors to arrive early to ensure we can begin promptly. Those who don't register are also welcome – we will register you in person!

### [Book in-person event](#)

😊 Thank you...

I hope this has been a useful insight into one of the many roles and ways in which you can make a difference to the lives of Leicestershire's children and young people!

Don't forget you can join any of our 'Find Out About Fostering' events to meet the team and hear from our current foster carers – we hold both virtual and in-person events throughout the year.

Alternatively, drop us a line to [fostering@leics.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@leics.gov.uk) to ask any questions you may have, or give us a call on **0116 305 0505**. We are open until 8pm on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

With Best Wishes,  
Denise 😊

[Follow us on Facebook](#) | [Follow us on Instagram](#) | [Follow us on TikTok](#)

