



The Fostering Network is the largest membership organisation for fostering in the UK, working with over 55,000 foster carers and more than 370 fostering services. Our membership offers a range of benefits to ensure our members are protected, supported and connected in their vital roles transforming children and young people's lives.)

## **About The Fostering Network**

We are the UK's leading fostering charity and the essential network for fostering, bringing together everyone who is involved in the lives of fostered children. We support foster carers to transform children's lives and we work with fostering services and the wider sector to develop and share best practice.

We work to ensure all fostered children and young people experience stable family life and we are passionate about the difference foster care makes. We champion fostering and seek to create vital change so that foster care is the very best it can be.

## **We protect you**

It's vital that you and your family are protected, which is why our membership offers market-leading legal protection insurance that covers the whole fostering family.

Your insurance includes:

- access to a legal helpline
- a solicitor to attend a police interview with you or your family member
- up to £150,000 legal expenses
- a confidential stress counselling service.

The insurance also provides cover for any allegations that happen during the period of your membership, even if you are no longer fostering or in membership.

Call the legal helpline on 0345 013 5004.

**“The helpline gave me detailed information and advice that helped me find a way forward in a difficult situation. I'm impressed with the service, I only wish I had asked for help before.”**

**Foster carer**

## **We support you**

We support you in your role in a range of ways including our helpline that can advise on many aspects of fostering, from income tax and benefits to allegations. And don't forget, through your legal insurance you can access legal advice and stress counselling helplines.

Call 020 7401 9582 (operating hours Monday to Friday 10am - 3pm) in England or call 0141 204 1400 (operating hours Monday to Friday 10am - 4pm) in Scotland. You can leave a message outside of these hours and an adviser will get back to you. You can also email [info@fostering.net](mailto:info@fostering.net).

We also support your development with a wide selection of online resources, publications and training, which are all discounted for our members.

Visit [thefosteringnetwork.org.uk](http://thefosteringnetwork.org.uk) to find out more.

We have secured discounts for family days out and holidays:

- Merlin - members can receive up to 52% off entry to the UK's top attractions such as SEA LIFE centres and LEGOLAND
- Haven - members receive up to 10% off Haven's best public prices at their 36 parks across the UK.
- Hoseasons - members receive 10% off a family holiday across the UK and Europe.
- Cottages.com - members receive 10% off a family holiday across the UK and Europe.

We know that securing a mortgage and getting the right home insurance can be a complicated process, which is why we've developed relationships with specialist mortgage and home insurance providers that understand fostering.

Log in to [thefosteringnetwork.org.uk](http://thefosteringnetwork.org.uk) for more information including discount codes.

## **We connect you**

We connect you with other foster carers and fostering service staff at regional events. These events will provide you with the opportunity to hear about the latest developments in fostering and meet others from the fostering community. Look out for your invitation.

We also link you to other foster carers through our online community. You can ask questions, share advice and offer support. Visit [thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/community](http://thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/community).

In addition, you will receive a monthly e-newsletter and Foster Care magazine to stay up to date with the latest sector news.

You can also get involved with our policy and campaigning work. Sign up to the e-newsletter by visiting [thefosteringnetwork.org.uk](http://thefosteringnetwork.org.uk).

## **Contact**

If you have any queries about your membership, please contact the membership team.

020 7620 6440 | [membership@fostering.net](mailto:membership@fostering.net)

**“Being a member helps me stay informed about what’s going on in fostering and links me in with other foster carers. Feeling like I’m part of a community is really important.”**

**Foster carer**