What is foster care all about?

A foster carer is someone who can make room in their home and heart for children that need temporary or long-term care. Are you loving, compassionate, resilient, flexible, a team-player and want to make a real difference in a child's life?

Foster carers are everyday people who generously open their homes to children who, for various reasons, cannot live safely with their birth family. Often these children have experienced trauma and need compassion, support, and stability to heal and move forward. Foster carers may look after a child for weeks, months, or years until we can safely reunite them with their birth family.

As a foster carer, you take on a parental role, keeping the child's best interests in mind at all times and providing a safe, loving home. You support the child's development, help them explore their interests, encourage them to stay connected to their cultural identity and birth family, and provide a therapeutic approach.

How are foster carers supported?

- 24/7 telephone access to an experienced Social Worker
- A dedicated Family Support Worker providing practical and emotional support
- Training and development
- Regular home visits by Wanslea staff, including Care Team Meetings
- Weekly subsidy payments
- Kaartdijin Mia Mia Library with cultural resources

SCARBOROUGH

110 Scarborough Beach Road Scarborough WA 6019

> PO Box 211 Scarborough WA 6922

> > T: (08) 9245 2441

www.wanslea.org.au

CLOVERDALE

311 Abernethy Road Cloverdale WA 6105





Wanslea acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to elders both past and present.

Foster Care

Wanslea is a leading provider of services for children and families in Western Australia.



How to get started

If supporting and caring for vulnerable children and young people is appealing to you, please contact us to find out more. You can choose to submit an Expression of Interest online or call to speak to someone from our team.

(08) 9245 2441

fostercare@wanslea.org.au www.fosternow.com.au



Who can become a foster carer?

Foster carers provide love, security and understanding in a family environment. Foster carers can be married, single, in a same sex relationship, separated, divorced or living with a partner. Wanslea Foster Carers come from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds.

You could be a foster carer! Apart from having the above personal traits, potential foster carers must also meet specific criteria, including:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Have a stable marital or relationship status (unchanged for the past year)
- Be physically, emotionally and financially stable
- Have not had a major illness or trauma during the past 12 months
- Be able to provide a child with their own room

"Children are loved, listened to and encouraged to express their feelings, opinions and wishes."

