

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Thank you for your inquiry to our office re fostering. Enclosed please find a copy of our newsletter, our book “Fostering is Caring” and information on membership and insurance.



## NEXT STEPS



Contact the fostering team at your local Health Service Executive (HSE) office.

Go to an information evening organised by your local HSE office.

Discuss the whole concept of fostering with your family.

If you are still interested, make a formal application to the fostering team at your local HSE office.

A social worker will visit you at home to discuss fostering and conduct a series of interviews; this process takes anything from 3 to 6 months depending on the resources of the local HSE office.

The social worker then makes an assessment. The HSE will also seek Garda clearance on you and any member of your family over 18 years of age, a medical report and three references.

You will be required to partake in a training course run by the local HSE fostering team.

When you start fostering, both you and the child in your care should have the support of a social worker.

Depending on the area for which you foster, you may also have regular support meetings with other foster parents.

There is a maintenance allowance paid in respect of each child in your care.

You can contact the Irish Foster Care Association in confidence if you require further help or information. Ph. 01 296 1083