



COULD YOU OPEN YOUR HOME TO A FOSTER CHILD IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE?

Families in Northamptonshire are being asked to consider whether they could offer a loving, safe home to a foster child.

There are currently almost 1,000 children in care in the county and Northamptonshire County Council is asking people to get in touch to find out more about fostering.

There are children of all ages waiting for a family to give them a home where they can learn, grow and progress. In Northamptonshire, there is a particular need to find more families for older children and sibling groups.

People who apply to become a foster carer will receive full training and support from a designated social worker, as well as financial support through a weekly allowance.

Cllr Matthew Golby, county council cabinet member for learning and families, said: "For children in care, it's the little things that make a difference – having dinner together as a family, going to the park or simply having someone to talk to.

"We are asking people across Northamptonshire if they would consider fostering a child. By becoming a foster carer you can make a huge difference to a child and give them the life they deserve.

"There are many different types of fostering and we will work with you to find the type that suits you, whether it be short-term, permanent, emergency foster care or short respite breaks.

"Foster carers are paid, and we provide full training and support to get people ready for the role. We are there for our carers every step of the way and help them grow into their foster carer role."

To become a short or long-term foster carer, people must:

- Have space and time in their life to care for a child
- Have a spare bedroom
- Be able to work as part of a team
- Are physically and mentally fit
- Have patience, flexibility, time and energy

Information about becoming a foster carer with Northamptonshire County Council is available by calling 0300 126 1009 or by visiting www.fosterme.co.uk. Here you can watch a short film where our fantastic foster carers share their experiences, as well as find information and read our foster carers' stories.

