

How do I find out more?

Caring is a challenge but the rewards are great - knowing you have made a difference to a child in need.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a carer, pick up a copy of Perth & Kinross Council's Fostering & Adoption Information Pack, available at Council offices.

Alternatively, for further advice and information, you can contact:

**Fiona Dickson, Social Worker or
Val Wylie, Social Worker**

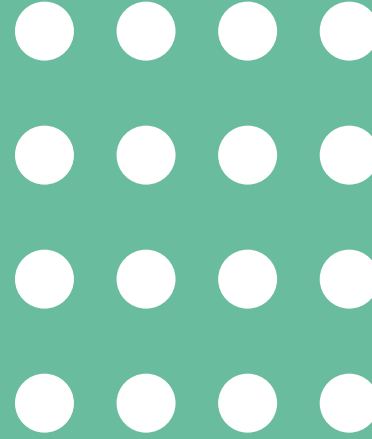
**Education & Children's Services
Perth & Kinross Council
Colonsay Resource Centre
37-39 Colonsay Street
PERTH
PH1 3TU**

Tel 01738 626940

Email ecsfofosteringandadoption@pkc.gov.uk

www.pkc.gov.uk

Perth & Kinross Council aims to deliver services of the highest quality. If you feel we haven't met these high standards, you can make a comment or complaint through our complaints procedure. Contact Education & Children's Services for further information.



If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting Nicola Gibson 01738 626940

ان حوالہ کے ای شخص تعرفہ نسخہ من ہذا توثیقہ بلکہ آفر و تصدیقہ فرقیہم الحصول علیہا (و علی نسخة مطبوعة لتخص هذه الوثيقة مترجمة بلغة أخرى) بالاتصال ب:
Nicola Gibson الاسم:
رقم هاتف الاتصال: 01738 626940

تشریح کے کسی جاننے والے کو اس دستاویز کے بغل کسی دوسری زبان یا شکل میں فراہم کیا جاسکتا ہے، (کبھی کبھی یہ دستاویز کے ترجمے کا حوالہ سے ہی کیا جاسکتا ہے)، اس کے احاطہ میں 01738 626940 سے Nicola Gibson سے رابطہ کر کے کیا جاسکتا ہے

Perth & Kinross Council
Education & Children's Services

Nicola Gibson 01738 626940

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**Council Text Phone Number
01738 442573**

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Ever thought about Fostering or Adoption?



**PERTH &
KINROSS
COUNCIL**

Education &
Children's Services



Perth & Kinross Council is looking for people from all backgrounds who would be willing to open their homes and lives to children and young people. This is to provide them with a safe, secure and loving family environment during what can be difficult periods in their life.

Why do children need carers?

Sometimes children and young people need to be looked after away from their own families, for a few days, a few weeks, months or years. There are many different reasons why they need carers:

- *Parental illness, or drug/alcohol problems.*
- *Marriage/relationship breakdowns.*
- *Neglect or abuse.*
- *Parents cannot cope with behaviour.*

Who becomes a carer?

Carers come from all walks of life, but it's their personal qualities that are most important. To be a carer, you need to really like children or teenagers. Tolerance, patience, resilience and bags of energy are also vital!

What types of care are there?

The Council provides different types of care to children and young people, with carers needed for all of them.

Temporary Foster Care

Temporary foster carers provide support to children and young people when they are unable to stay with their families for a short period of time. This can be until their family difficulties are resolved, or until a permanent alternative is found for them. Foster carers provide a supportive family atmosphere whilst maintaining contact with the children's birth parents.

Respite Fostering

Respite fostering provides vital, regular support to foster carers, children and families in the community by giving them a break from caring, from a couple of days to up to two weeks.

Permanent Fostering and Adoption

Sometimes children are unable to return to their own parents and need longer-term care in a safe alternative family environment. Permanent fostering is one option for such situations, where children or young people want to maintain links with their birth family. The other option is adoption, the legal process of passing all rights and responsibilities for a child to adoptive parents. A full and genuine commitment is needed from carers in such cases to support the child or young person for the rest of their lives.

Supported Accommodation

Supported accommodation is a resource for young people aged 16-24, who may be leaving residential school, children's homes or foster placements. Carers provide accommodation and support to help the young person learn and develop the life skills they need for independent living.

'Care 4' (Specialist Foster Care Scheme)

The 'Care 4' scheme has been established by Perth & Kinross Council to provide foster carers for teenagers aged 13-18, whose offending behaviour would otherwise see them placed in residential school or a secure unit. 'Care 4' aims to improve their chances in life by helping them make positive choices and prepare for adulthood.

Carers with some experience of working with young people and suitable qualifications are being sought for the 'Care 4' scheme. Full-time carers will be considered self-employed and will receive a realistic annual sum plus expenses. 24-hour support, ongoing training and respite care will be offered to carers taking on this challenging role.

