



# One2One EBD

(Emotional, Behavioural Difficulties)

# We look after children and young people from Leicestershire with a wide variety of needs.

However, some of our children and young people have additional and sometimes challenging behaviours that mean they need specialist care. This is where our One2One EBD Foster Carers make the difference.

Some of our young people have complex and challenging behaviours, due to behavioural difficulties and learning disabilities. This is where you come in.

If you have experience of working with, caring for or supporting children and young people who have additional and complex needs, then we would love to hear from you. As with our mainstream One2One Carers, you will be caring for one young person. This will be a focused and dedicated role with the aim to settle, secure and motivate our young person to ensure their needs are met on all levels. You will be their advocate. You will be their carer. Above all, with our support, you will be part of building their present and their future.

Children and young people supported by our One2One (EBD) Carers may have a physical disability, a severe learning disability, a severe sensory impairment, Autism or complex health needs. If you have experience of caring for or working with young people with any of these conditions and would like to join our team as a specialist carer, then we would love to hear from you.

## What we need from you:

- A spare bedroom for the sole use of fostering within your home.
- No children under the age of 18 living permanently in your home.
- Be available full-time, or willing to take this as your full-time role upon approval as a One2One Carer.
- Be able to drive and have access to a car.
- Be driven to strive, along with a professional team, to achieve the best outcomes for our young people.
- Have relevant experience or a professional background dealing with young people with challenging or difficult behaviours. This may include previous health and social care, youth work or teaching roles.
- Be willing to care for a young person in your home and work as part of a multi-disciplinary team, with extensive support from Leicestershire County Council staff.

As with all of our Specialist Foster Carer roles, this is an incredible opportunity for people with the skills, determination and knowledge to care for some of our most vulnerable children and young people as part of a team of professionals.

## Case study

### Paul and Marie - One2One (EBD) carers

Our journey to become foster carers began with Marie babysitting on behalf of another foster carer, looking after their disabled child. Marie found this a very rewarding task due to her prior experience with working with children in a nursery. The foster carer she baby sat for said “Why don’t you think about becoming a foster carer?”. After a lot of thought from both of us and a discussion with the whole family, we began the process. Our children were very supportive too and welcoming of the new journey in life we were embarking upon, together, as a family.

We had a few placements, of children, from an independent fostering agency then a long spell without any placements. Until we got a referral for siblings, who were both disabled and had specialised needs.

The true journey had begun, it was very long but was blessed with little achievements, step by step. However, it did also provide new challenges and set-backs. Such as, one of the children developing epilepsy due to his condition.

The children’s social worker also provided fantastic support and went above and beyond to further support and acknowledge what we were dealing with.

It became clear after some time, however, the independent fostering agency didn’t give us the support the county council could provide. So it made sense for us to transfer to Leicestershire County Council as One2One (EBD) Carers - and we haven’t looked back since.



## A day in the life:

Our day starts early, especially if we have to deal with any matters. The day is relatively normal during school terms, and they are much like any other child. But we do have to give support all the time.

A typical weekend is also an early start. Beginning with breakfast and then getting dressed. Then taking a trip to the village where the children are now familiar with everyone in the shops and all the shop workers also know them. First, we visit the bank and then to the travel agents to pop in to say "Hello!". Then to the sweet shop to let the children pick their own sweets and treats. Then a little visit to Greggs for a break.

It's off to home after this to let the children eat their lunch. Followed by an hour at our local park. Or to a play centre and even sometimes just relaxing in the garden, eating our afternoon snacks. After this it's time on the Kindles and then dinner time. Followed by calming down for the evening as its an early start in the morning. Then bed time for everyone at 6pm or 6:30pm, to do it all over again the next day.

We are a bigger family now due to the children, as they are a permanent placement. We can't imagine not having them and now see how far they have come. Issues are always going to be there but now Paul is a full-time carer it makes everything so much easier.

## Our ethos:

**"If they are in our house they are in our family"**

Sometimes you can't see how far the children have come until you look back. From when they were taking food without asking during outings for dinner to now, when they are the best-behaved children in the room. Or seeing their faces as we walked around Disney watching them running up to characters and hugging them, the same as all of the other excited children. Since becoming One2One (EBD) carers we focus everything on the children. Everything else, is taken care of by the fostering team at Leicestershire County Council. It's the best move we ever made.

# Payments, allowances and further professional development

## **We know that the best carers are not motivated to look after children and young people because of the money they can earn.**

However, we also know that we need the best people, with the skills, qualifications, experience and dedication to provide some of our children and young people in care, with the best opportunities in life.

Therefore, we are offering professional fees for professional carers. We believe that our children and young people deserve the best care, which is why we are looking for Specialist Carers to join our team. Here is some further information about the specific roles, the payments you will receive and other information for you to consider:

### **One2One (Complex EBD)**

These carers will be paid every four weeks, regardless of whether or not they have a child in placement. When a child is in placement, you will also receive the fostering allowance for that child, based on their age and needs.

You will be entitled to respite care, to give you regular breaks, complete support from our 'Dedicated Placement Support Team' as well as our access to our support line 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

All carers will have their own social worker who will support them. Ensuring you have all you need and make sure you have access to training and development along the way. All of our carers will be invited to regular 'thank you' events where they can all get together. Our Specialist Carers also provide respite and support to each other.

You will be part of our multi-disciplinary team, looking to find the best way to care for a child and ensuring that their needs are at the centre of all decisions made. You will have ongoing support and guidance as well as receiving bespoke and considered training and development.

**One2One EBD basic payment: £42,552  
(paid even if you don't have a child or young person in placement),  
rising to: £49,182 - £55,500 per year**

**One2One Carers can't have any children under 18 years living in their home.**

# Training and Support

**We believe that professional training and support is personal - personal to you, your current skills and experience (along with meeting the needs of your role at that time). We will encourage and support you to develop and enhance your skills throughout your career with us.**



“ The training was so helpful. No classrooms or essays, it just helped me to make sense of and really understand what would be involved in my role. ”

Leicestershire County Council Specialist Carer

## Leicestershire County Council will support you as a foster carer across the following areas:

- Practical and emotional support from your own supervising social worker with regular fortnightly face to face visits and telephone support through the foster carer support line.
- If visits or support are needed in between regular visits, this will be offered by the supervising social worker who is there to support you every step of the way.
- Working with multiple agencies and partners (such as Educational Psychologists, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and the Early Help Services) through the delivery of care planning.
- Our Virtual School will provide our foster carers with tips and strategies to help children in their care to get the most out of school and further education.
- Specialised training tailored to support you in meeting the child or young person's needs.

Practical and emotional support to enhance your role and encourage further development.

The 'Virtual School' is a Leicestershire County Council service whose role is to improve the education of Leicestershire's children in care by supporting schools, foster carers and social workers to help children and young people to do their best.



As members of The Fostering Network we are part of an organisation that strives to improve policy and legislation for foster carers and children in care. Our membership provides our foster carers with access to lots of benefits, information and support too.



We are also members of NATP (National Association of Therapeutic Parenting).

# The application process

To become approved as a Specialist Carer you will need to be assessed as a foster carer. This process takes between 4-6 months and you can remain in your current employment if necessary, during that time. We will be flexible and supportive to enable you to make plans, learn more and make a considered transition to fostering.

Throughout the assessment process, you will be invited to training, which will further enhance and support your skills and provide an opportunity to meet other carers. Some Specialist Carers remain in their employment throughout the assessment process, but will then leave and fully dedicate themselves to the role.

Stage one of the process is where the checks and references are gathered. Stage two of the process is where you will be allocated your own social worker who will visit you at home to understand you, your skills and how best you may be suited to the role. We run these stages together and during this time, you will attend training to prepare you for the role and continue to receive bespoke training and ongoing development after approval as a Pathway Carer.

## Panel

At the end of this process, you will attend our Panel where a recommendation will be made to approve you as a Specialist Carer with Leicestershire County Council.





# What next?

**You may currently be in employment and considering a change. You may be looking for a new opportunity, one where you can use your skills to make a real difference. Whatever stage you are at in thinking about the Specialist Carer roles with Leicestershire County Council, then the Recruitment Team are here to help.**

**Call 0116 305 05 05 or email [fostering@leics.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@leics.gov.uk)**

We can answer your questions, provide further information and arrange for you to talk to one of our carers so you can find out what it's really like.

We can arrange to visit you at home to discuss the roles in more detail.

There is no pressure to progress, just a willingness to help you to decide if this is the next step for you.

**So, call us, email us, get in touch, we would love to hear from you.**

“ From where Jason was when he first came to us, to where he is now, it's almost unbelievable. It was simply down to dedication, the support we got from the team and never giving up on him. ”

Leicestershire  
**Fostering  
& Adoption**



**Fostering**Leicestershire.com