



## Making the Transition

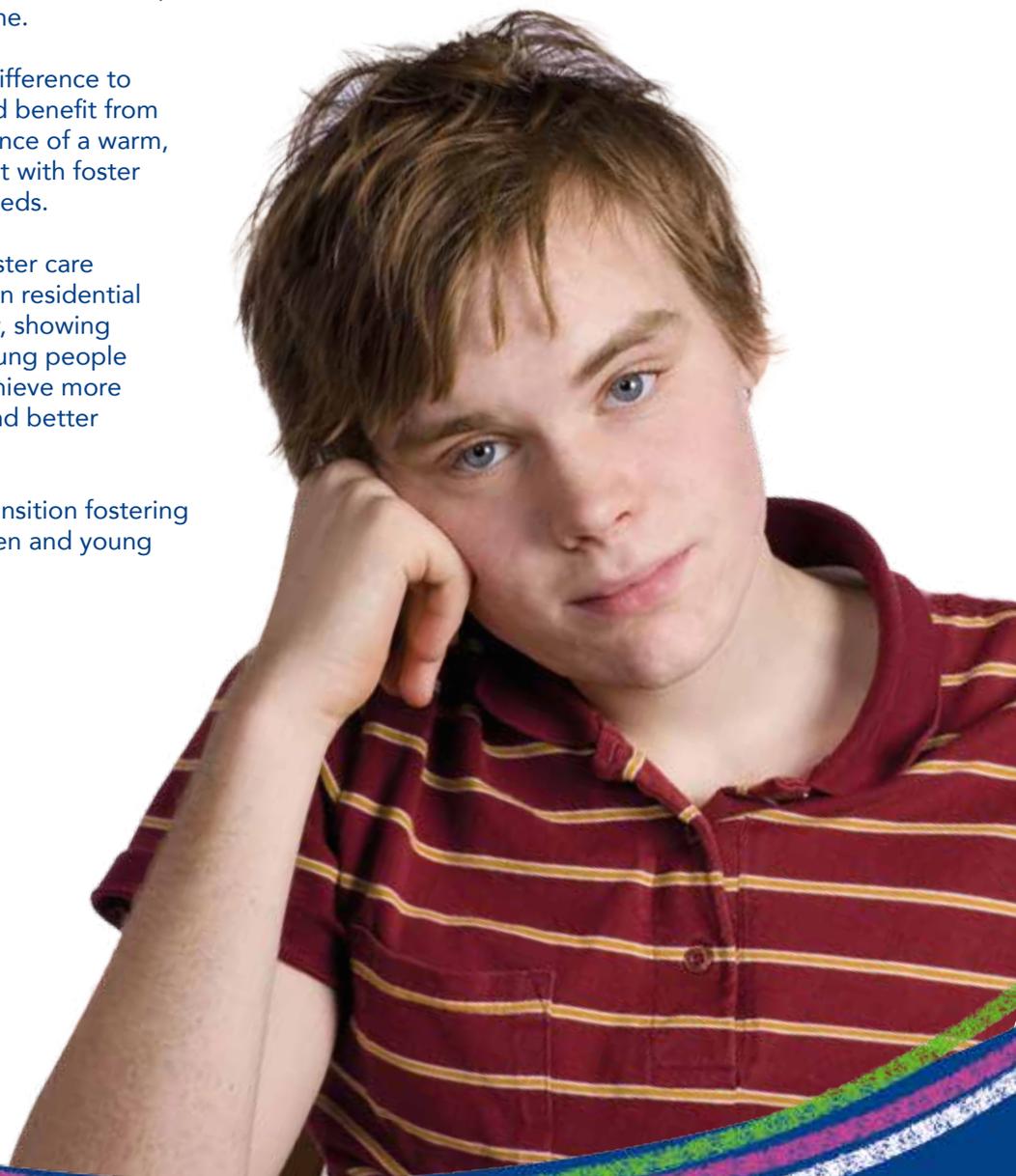
Last year almost 6,900 children were placed in residential care (children's homes) when they came into the care system.

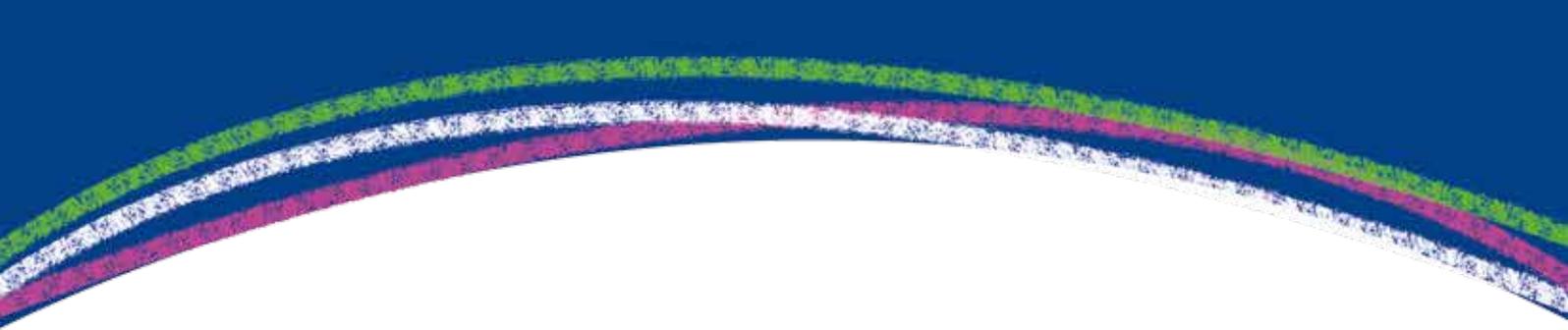
For some children and young people residential care can be the best setting to meet their needs. However, this may not be the case for all children. Many have found themselves in residential care due to a lack of suitable foster families at the time of placement and as a result have often been placed in residential units many miles from home.

We want to make a real and lasting difference to children and young people who could benefit from the stability of family life, the experience of a warm, supportive and nurturing environment with foster carers who are there to meet their needs.

We believe that children placed in foster care achieve better outcomes than those in residential care. The evidence supports our view, showing that in the long term children and young people placed in foster care can go on to achieve more and develop stronger attachments and better relationships.

Fostering People have introduced transition fostering to help reduce the numbers of children and young people placed in residential care.





Transition fostering can be challenging as many young people become institutionalised as a result of their time in residential care and develop attachment difficulties. Our placements have been designed to provide the very best support to our foster carers, children and young people making this transition.

Transition fostering allows space and time for careful matching and planning for any young person moving from a residential placement into a family home. Planned introductions always take place and we carefully consider the views of each individual child or young person, to ensure we meet their needs and give the placement the best possible chance of success.

## Could you make the transition?

We know people become foster carers because they want to make a difference to young people's lives. Successfully enabling a child or young person to live in a family is one of the biggest and most important changes a foster carer can make, and it's highly rewarding too.

Transition fostering isn't for everyone; it is likely that you would have good work or life experience to be able to face the challenges that children with attachment difficulties can present. Children moving from a residential placement are also unlikely to be placed alongside younger children as they need lots of time, patience and understanding.

## What support will I receive?

Fostering People are committed to providing the highest standards of support to all of our foster carers. As a fostering agency rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted, you can be assured that we understand how important the support you receive from us is in achieving positive outcomes for all young people.

In addition to our comprehensive support package, transition foster carers also receive:

- Additional support in line with the needs of the individual child, including education, therapy and support workers.
- Specific transitions training.
- An excellent package of financial support which starts as soon as a match is made, ensuring our carers can take the time needed for successful introductions and planning from the outset.

If you would like more information on becoming a transition foster carer with Fostering People contact us on:

**0800 077 8159**

**[www.fosteringpeople.co.uk](http://www.fosteringpeople.co.uk)**

