



Barnardos

Becoming a Barnardos foster carer

Make a difference to a child's life



Kia eke ai te hunga taitamariki
ki ngā rangi tūhāhā

As a Barnardos foster carer you'll make a huge difference to the life of a child

Fostering can be very demanding but also hugely rewarding. Every child deserves to be safe and nurtured. Unfortunately, not all children experience this. Regardless of the situation, as a Barnardos foster carer you'll provide stability, safety and care for children who need it - for as long as they need it.

What does fostering involve?

As a foster carer, you will be the safe family providing day-to-day care for the child. We will work with you to find the best match based on your experience and own family make up.

Why do children come into care?

Most children who come into our care are referred to us by Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children because their parents are unable to care for them for a time or because they are at risk. We work with Oranga Tamariki who maintain legal responsibility for any child in foster care. They decide when a child requires care and how long that care should last for.

We also provide care and support when families are experiencing difficulties and children need respite or short term care.

How long do children stay in care?

Foster placements vary in time length. A child can stay in short-term foster care with us for anywhere from one night to a few months. Children who are in long-term care may have regular contact with their families. If Oranga Tamariki requests it, we will find them a new, permanent home.

No matter the circumstance or reasons, our priority is the safety and wellbeing of the child.


Why foster with Barnardos?

If you're approved as a Barnardos carer, you will receive:

- access to 24/7 support from our Foster Care Team
- invitations to carer events
- fortnightly board payment to cover essential costs for any foster children in your care
- ongoing training and resources including a full induction: child development and attachment theory, dynamics of child maltreatment, self-care, safe caring, legal frameworks and networking. Additional training includes: First Aid, Trauma-Informed parenting strategies, access to Fostering Kids training modules and therapeutic support.

For more information

If you have any queries about becoming a Barnardos foster carer or would like to know more please contact us:

 03 365 3923

 canterburyfostercare@barnardos.org.nz

“A smile, a few words or simply seeing the joy in a child’s eyes – they are the true rewards of fostering.”

—
Barnardos foster carer

 0800 BARNARDOS

 barnardos.org.nz

 Barnardos
**DO MORE
FOR KIWI KIDS**