



## INFOGUIDE FOR INITIAL HOME VISITS (IHV)

Anyone making an enquiry into fostering with us will have an Initial Home Visit. This will be carried out by our Fostering Advisor who will talk about the fostering process and gather details about you, your home, family and lifestyle. It is also your opportunity to find out more about fostering, our agency and for us to answer any questions you may have.

Please remember that there are no right or wrong answers to these questions and not all will be relevant to you. It's not an interrogation.... it just helps us to build a better picture of you as part of the application process... and for you to make an informed decision if fostering is for you!

### WHAT QUESTIONS WILL YOU BE ASKED?

These are just some of the questions to give you an idea of what to think about before the visit. Please use these as a guide and make a note of anything you would like to ask.

#### GENERAL

1. Details of those living in the home with you
2. Do you have any experience of fostering or adoption?
3. Do you have any parenting experience?
4. Is the house and room suggested suitable for fostering?
5. What pets are in the home?
6. Do you have any criminal convictions? A DBS check will be done on all household members aged 18+

#### MOTIVATION

1. Why do you want to foster?
2. How long have you been thinking about fostering and what made you apply now?
3. Why do you think you would make a good foster parent?
4. What age group do you feel you are best suited for?
5. Why did you choose to contact Mosaic?

#### IMPACT OF FOSTERING/SUPPORT

1. Have you thought about how fostering may impact on your family life, interests, hobbies etc?
2. Have you spoken to friends and family about this decision to apply?
3. Do you have time to attend training, meetings and write reports?
4. Have you thought about who you could rely on for support?

## SKILLS/AVAILABILITY

1. Do you have any experience of parenting, caring or working with other people's children?
2. Do you have IT skills?
3. What skills do you think you have to be a successful foster parent?
4. Do you have experience of working as part of a team?
5. Will at least one foster parent be available at all times for the child to attend meetings etc?
6. Do you drive and have access to a car and are willing to travel?

## INTERESTS/HOBBIES/LIFESTYLE

1. What hobbies and interests do you have that could be shared with a foster child?
2. Would you be willing to share a foster child's hobbies and interests?
3. Describe your work/life balance

## HEALTH/WELLBEING

1. Are you healthy?
2. Would you promote a healthy lifestyle to a foster child?

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE VISIT?

After the visit, some applicants may decide that fostering is not for them which is fine – there is absolutely no commitment! If you decide it is something you would like to continue with, we then pass this information to our Fostering Manager and if they are happy then you will be invited to formally apply and to attend our Skills to Foster training sessions



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