

**Emergency foster care** provides a placement for a child or children who need somewhere safe to stay for a few nights, while social workers establish what is needed in the longer-term. Emergency carers will often be called upon at very short notice, and potentially may be needed late at night.

- What personal attributes would emergency foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for emergency foster carers?

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**Short-term foster care** provides a placement for a child or children for a few weeks or months while long-term placement plans are made for the child. Short-term care is classed as being anything up to two years. Carers would likely get some period of notice before a child's arrival, but it may not be very long.

- What personal attributes would short-term foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for short-term foster carers?

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**Short break foster care** provides pre-planned, regular placements for children who have disabilities, special needs or behavioural difficulties. Short break carers could offer anything from for a few hours care each week to a weekend every fortnight, giving birth family or full-time foster carers a break.

- What personal attributes would short break foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for short break foster carers?

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**Respite foster care** provides a placement for a looked after child for a pre-planned short stay, usually for up to a fortnight, although in some circumstances it could be longer. It is generally used to give full-time foster carers a break, and a carer's allowance should be clearly outlined in the fostering service's policies.

- What personal attributes would respite foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for respite foster carers?

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**Remand foster care** provides a placement for young people in England and Wales who are remanded by the court into care of a specially trained foster carer.

- What personal attributes would remand foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for remand foster carers?

**Parent and baby foster care** typically provides a home and support for a new mother and her baby, to help the mother care for her baby in the long term. Occasionally, this placement could be offered to birth fathers keen to care for a new baby when the birth mother is unable to. The parents are often teenagers themselves.

- What personal attributes would parent and baby foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for parent and baby foster carers?



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**Long-term or permanent foster care** provides a long-term placement for looked after children. Not all children who cannot return to their birth family should go on to be adopted and some continue to have regular contact with their birth families. These children and young adults need a secure and caring long-term home until they reach adulthood.

- What personal attributes would long-term foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for long-term foster carers?



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**Fostering an unaccompanied asylum-seeking child (UASC)** is where a non-British child has arrived alone into the country and claimed asylum, and is cared for by foster carers in the UK. Unless the child can return safely to their country of origin they will be allowed to stay in the UK until they are at least 18. Most unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are teenagers.

- What personal attributes would UASC foster carers need?
- What would be the primary challenges for UASC carers?



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**Fostering to adopt**, also called concurrent care or early permanence placement (EPP), is where prospective carers are approved for both fostering and adoption, and children are placed who are highly likely to be adopted but have not yet been granted a placement order. Many children are placed at birth or when very young. The family care for the child in a fostering placement with a hope of adopting them when the placement order is granted. This model reduces the number of potential moves a child will experience.

- What personal attributes would families who foster to adopt need?
- What would be the primary challenges for families who foster to adopt?