

Who can be a remand foster carer?

We are looking for people over 25 years old, who live within a 25 mile radius of Wakefield and who have a spare room in their home. You will need to have some experience of caring for young people, be flexible in your approach with them, and be willing to attend training and support groups.

You will be part of a team trying to help young people make sense of their behaviour and prevent them re-offending.

Other members of the team you will work with include professionals from the Youth Offending Team, the police, and the young person's family.

Most of the young people are between 10 and 17 years old. They have been charged with one or more offences and they may have been remanded before.

Many will have contact with their families even though they are not allowed to live with them.

Remand foster care is not suitable for all young people, and you would not be asked to look after someone assessed as high risk or dangerous.

For further information please contact:

Calderdale Youth Offending Team
3 Trinity Place
Halifax
HX1 1BD

Telephone
01422 368279

Fax
01422 368483

E-mail
info@calderdaleyot.org.uk

Equal Opportunities

At all times you have the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. This means the Youth Offending Panels and YOT staff will treat you fairly whatever your race, colour, sex, sexuality or disability. You are also expected to behave equally fairly towards other people.

Complaints Procedure

If you feel you have been treated unfairly or unreasonably by the YOT or Youth Offender Panels you can make a complaint. To do this, contact the Calderdale YOT Manager at the above address.

Data Protection

The Calderdale Youth Offending Team deals with personal data under the Data Protection Act 1998. Some of these may be sensitive such as criminal offences, proceedings and convictions. We may share some or all of them with other Council departments, our agents, service providers or other third parties. When involving any third party we shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that they will keep your personal data secure and treat it confidentially. If you are worried about giving us your personal details or about us sharing them with others, please discuss this with the member of staff who is dealing with your case.
We will explain what you can do.

Accessibility

These information leaflets are available in a number of different formats and languages from our Halifax office, or from our website.

Calderdale
Youth Offending
Team

Calderdale
Youth Offending
Team

Remand Foster Care

Information for Prospective Carers



Making Calderdale Safer

www.calderdaleyot.org.uk

www.calderdaleyot.org.uk

Remand Foster Care

This leaflet tells you about looking after young people who have been charged with an offence and are waiting for their case to be heard by the courts.

About being a remand foster carer

Being a remand foster carer means looking after a young person in your home while they're on remand. This means they've been charged with an offence and are waiting for their case to be heard by the courts. Usually young people like this are allowed to go back home but some need to stay with foster carers for a short time.

This is where you could come in. If you've had some experience of caring for young people, and have a spare room in your house, we'd like to hear from you. You'd be paid, and you'd get support and training.

What exactly does 'remand' mean?

Remand is one of the orders the court can make when someone over the age of 10 has been charged with an offence but has not been convicted. A remand order gives responsibility to certain organisations, such as the Youth Offending Team, to look after that young person for an agreed time. Young people appear before the court at regular intervals until their case is heard.

Why is remand fostering needed?

Young people who are on remand are normally kept at home with their families. However, if they can't go home for any reason, they may need to stay with foster carers for a short time. We always aim to get them home as quickly as possible, where this is in their interests and not against the interests of the public.

What does remand fostering involve?

Young people on remand orders will need help getting to court and possibly to the police station. They may not be attending school, so you will need to be available during the normal working day.

You will need to provide clear boundaries for a young person living in your home. You will also need to ensure that young people abide by any curfews attached to their remand order.

You will be expected to attend meetings with other professionals. Some of the meetings will be to decide what needs to change before a young person is able to return home.

What support will there be?

You can expect a great deal of support, both individually and in group sessions with other remand carers. There will be advice and practical help available during the day and a helpline number for outside working hours.

Young people on remand also receive a great deal of support. They will have regular contact with a member of the Youth Offending Team, and the Social Services Fostering Team, who will work closely alongside you.

What happens if my property is damaged?

All foster carers must have their own house insurance and should advise their insurance company that they are fostering. If a young person deliberately damages your property or steals from you, arrangements will be made to meet all, or part of the costs, depending on the circumstances.

What happens if I cannot cope?

We hope we can provide enough support to enable you to cope but there will be times when things go wrong. It is important that you let us know how things are going and whether we can do anything else to help. We only want to remove young people from foster care as a last resort.

What rewards are there?

You will receive a basic fee for 52 weeks of the year, which includes four weeks paid holiday. You will also get expenses each week to cover the costs of having a young person in the home.

Travel expenses and the rent of your telephone will be paid, together with the cost of any calls made in connection with the young person you are looking after.

Perhaps most of all, you will get satisfaction from knowing that you have helped a young person at a time of crisis in their life.