

# Specialist

## Foster Care Support



## A NETWORK OF SUPPORT



We believe that providing a high level of foster care support is crucial to the stability of a foster placement. It is also central to our Key Care Team Model of practice which is at the heart of everything we do.

### COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT

Children and young people who come into foster care with Key Assets are usually referred due to their high and complex needs, which can place considerable demands on foster carers.

For this reason, specialist foster carers receive comprehensive support from a multidisciplinary team of professionals who are on hand, whenever necessary, to help provide stability and consistency for our foster children.

# A NETWORK OF SUPPORT

## Key Assets Carer Support

If you decide to become a specialist foster carer with Key Assets, you will have access to the following professional support services:

- › 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year access to a qualified Social Worker.
- › Fortnightly face-to-face home visits with your own qualified Supervising Social Worker.
- › Children's and Young People's Support Service (CYPSS) workers.
- › A Key Assets Therapist who will provide therapeutic support and training.
- › 24 days paid respite every year.
- › Support group meetings with staff and fellow foster carers.
- › Organised activities for children and young people.
- › Comprehensive post-approval foster carer training.
- › Foster Carer allowance.

## Key Care Team Model

The Key Care Team Model is a way of working together to achieve the best outcomes for children and families. The Key Care Team is made up of important services, supports and people who work together to create a nurturing, therapeutic environment in order to achieve safety, stability and well-being for children and young people.

The Key Care Team Model complements the Key Assets strength-based, therapeutic approach, centering on the needs of the child, young person and family. This approach is highly effective in positively impacting the effects of trauma and attachment issues and the provision of quality care in a family setting.

In this light, the Key Care Team Model is based on the principle of 'making a positive and lasting difference'.

## Key Care Team Model and the Foster Carer

Central to the Key Care Team Model is the foster carer, who acts as the 'agent of change', with the extended responsibility of providing therapeutic foster care to the child or young person.

Our support services based on the Key Care Team Model are not intended to replace the responsibilities of the foster carer, but rather, to extend and enhance those responsibilities.

## A Network of Support Professionals

Our dedicated team of professionals build collaborative relationships with carers that focus on developing their skills and nurturing their competence and confidence. The Key Care Team Model offers carers the support and training they need to provide stable and successful placements for the children and young people in their care.

- › Supervising Social Workers undertake fortnightly visits and regular telephone contact with you, as your closest support professional.
- › Children and Young People Support Service (CYPSS) workers provide direct support for a child or young person with a Key Assets foster carer. Dedicated support is vital to the success of the service we provide.
- › Therapeutic support is offered to foster carers, as well as the wider support network around a placement. Therapy can be delivered individually, or in groups.

