



Olive Branch  
F O S T E R I N G

# The A-Z of Fostering

Created by the Olive Branch Connected Community



A  
IS FOR

# Acceptance

“ We welcome children, young people, foster carers and colleagues within the Olive Branch team for who they are. ”



**B**  
IS FOR

**Belong**

“ Young people feel safe.  
Most young people become  
increasingly safer as they  
develop positive relationships  
and a sense of belonging.”



C  
IS FOR

# Communication

“ Communication is a key element within fostering to ensure the needs of the child are met at all times. ”



D

IS FOR

# Differences

“ We accept each person's differences in the **Olive Branch** team and we learn from other people's skills and experiences. ”



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# E

IS FOR

# Enjoy

“ Because I am the youngest sibling in our house, I really enjoy the responsibility of being able to be a big brother to other children and care for them. ”



# F

IS FOR

# Family Members

“ Our foster carer’s families give a great support network for both the foster carer’s families and the children and young people in their care. ”



**G**  
IS FOR

**Good**

“ This independent fostering agency is good because: Young people make excellent progress across all areas of their development. They are actively involved in self-evaluation of their progress resulting in real investment in their identified targets. ”





H  
IS FOR

# Home

“ Our foster carers provide a nurturing, safe and secure base for the children and young people in their care. ”



IS FOR

# Inspiration

“ Foster carers act as positive role models and inspire children and young people to achieve their desired goals and aspirations. ”





# Journey

“ All of the children and young people within our agency have experienced different journeys so far in their lives, we treat each child and young person as an individual and accommodate their different needs. We aim to continue their journey in a positive way. ”



# K

IS FOR

# Knowledge

“ Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society and in every family. ”



L  
IS FOR

Listen

“ Everyone at Olive Branch listens to all of the foster carers, children’s and staff member’s feedback to improve the support and guidance that we provide on a daily basis. ”



# M

IS FOR

# Matching



“ Matching is like a jigsaw puzzle: It's about finding two pieces that fit and then working together to fill in the gaps, in the hope of creating a happy, family picture.”



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FOSTERING

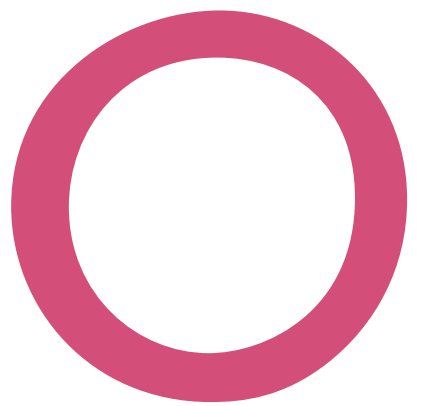
# N

IS FOR

# Nurture

“ Foster carers provide children and young people with a warm and nurturing environment to develop and thrive within. ”





IS FOR

# Opportunities

“ You provide children and young people with opportunities to grow and develop in safe environments. ”





P  
IS FOR

# Panel



“ We are a group of people who have varied backgrounds, from people who have experienced being fostered, people who are foster carers and know the highs and lows of the fostering task to people who have experience in health, social work, education, and the law. This diverse combination of experience helps us in our discussions about foster carers being approved. We really enjoy meeting prospective and approved foster carers and children and young people at the panel. ”



IS FOR

# Quality

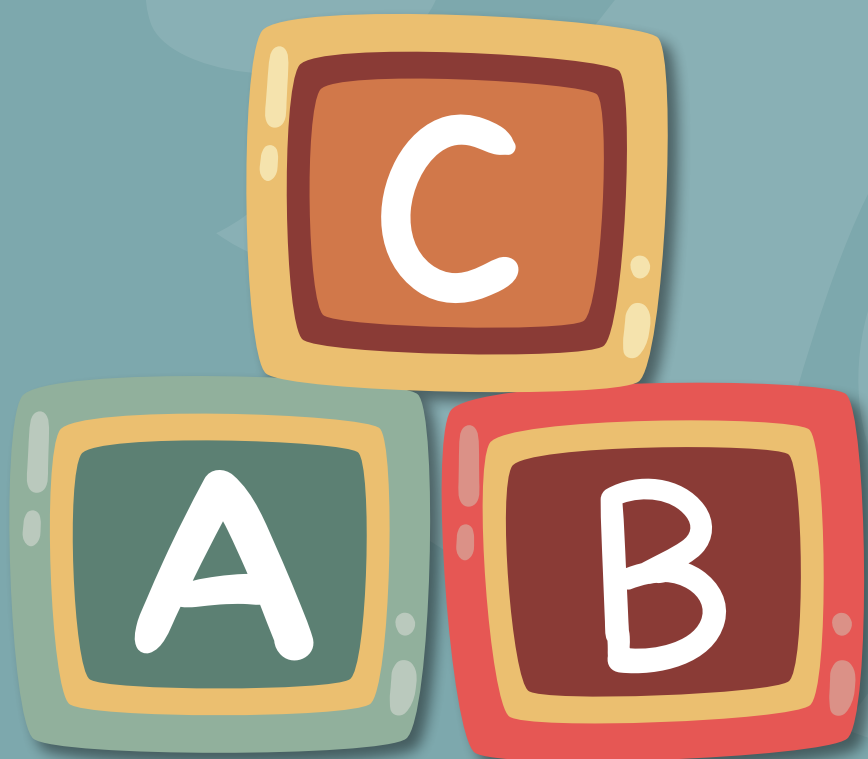


The registered manager provides good supervision and development of supervising social workers.

A supervising social worker said:

“ It’s like a family here, it does not feel like going to work. It’s a lovely environment to work in and we approach everything with the children at the centre of all we do.

It’s a real team approach here. ”



R  
IS FOR

# Responsive

“ In fostering it is important that we are responsive to the children’s needs. ”



S  
IS FOR

# Sensitivity

“ We provide our foster carers with training to manage sensitive subjects and follow procedures to inform all the relevant professionals to safeguard the children and young people in their care. ”



# T

IS FOR

# Team

“ There is no “I” in team, here at Olive Branch we are all part of the team. From the children who are placed, to the foster carers, our admin department, our social workers, right through to our Director. ”



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U  
IS FOR

# Understanding

“ Understanding the needs of our children to enable us to best support them to achieve positive outcomes. ”



V  
IS FOR

# Value

“ In fostering, we value children’s, young people’s and foster carers wishes and feelings throughout their journey.”



W  
IS FOR

Why?



“ I decided to foster for many reasons, but the main one was to make a difference to someone's life. We weren't initially put forward for having 2 children, so we had never imagined having siblings. When the children are happy, smiling and having fun, it really does make you forget the tough times. ”



# X

IS FOR

# Xenodochial

“ This word translates into the Greek meaning of being kind to strangers. In fostering, we welcome strangers into our home and offer them love, a sense belonging and care for them. ”



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Y  
IS FOR

You

“ In fostering **YOU** are able to make a positive difference to someone else's life. **YOU** can make that change. ”



Z  
IS FOR

Zest



“ Here at **Olive Branch**, it's lovely to see all of our colleagues, carers and young people have a zest for life. In all we do, our roles are fulfilling beyond measure, knowing we support our carers who support our children and young people in care. ”



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# Olive Branch

# Connected Community



To find out more about fostering  
with us, get in touch:

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