*We’re encouraging everyone in the fostering community to write to their local elected representative this Foster Care Fortnight (15-28 May 2023), asking them to get involved and show their support for the campaign and foster care this year. You can find the name and email address of your local elected representative using the links below. We have created a template letter for your use, and for a bigger impact, we suggest including your own personal experiences.*

*Find your local councillor for:* [*England,*](https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP)[*Northern Ireland,*](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts/mps-members-parliament)[*Scotland,*](https://www.parliament.scot/msps)[*Wales*](https://senedd.wales/find-a-member-of-the-senedd/)

*Thank you for your support.*

[Add in your name and address]

Dear [insert name of elected representative]

I am a foster carer in your local area and am writing to ask you to join me in celebrating [Foster Care Fortnight 2023](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/foster-care-fortnight-2023), between 15 - 28 May 2023, the UK’s biggest foster care awareness raising campaign led by charity The Fostering Network.

Foster carers care for around three-quarters of the 97,000 looked after children in the UK. Everyday foster carers, like me, give children safe, loving and supportive homes. We have continued to do so under some incredibly difficult circumstances throughout the past few years, such as the current cost-of-living crisis.

The theme of this year’s campaign is #FosteringCommunities. We are shining a light on the many ways people in our local community support each other, and our most vulnerable young people, and celebrate how foster care can transform lives.

The fortnight is also used by fostering services to support recruitment of new foster carers. There are currently not enough foster carers available in the right location, at the right time to meet the needs of all children in care. This results in some children not having all their needs met or having to live far away from everything familiar to them.

Your involvement to raise the profile of fostering is needed more than ever. As the elected representative in our local area, it is important you show your support for fostering and the vital role it plays in society.

[Add in a personalised section about the number of foster carers needed in your area. No more than 100 words].

There are many ways to get involved such as participating in Foster Walk – a chance to meet those in the fostering community and walk in support of foster care. You can get behind the campaign by sharing your support on social media, using #FCF23 and #FosteringCommunities.

Please show your support and help raise the profile of fostering and its transformational power in our local community – it would mean the world to us.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name]