



**The  
Fostering  
Network**



# **Membership of The Fostering Network**

Durham member conference

19 September 2019

Kevin Williams

Chief Executive



# The Fostering Network

- We are the UK's leading fostering charity.
- We work with fostering services and the wider sector to develop and share best practice.
- We are passionate about the difference foster care makes
- We champion fostering and seek to create vital change so that foster care is the very best it can be.

## Our vision, mission and values

**Our vision:** A society where the importance of fostering is understood, recognised and supported

**Our mission:** To support those who foster, improve opportunities for fostered children and young people, and provide expert guidance to all fostering services

We are trusted; we are together; we are vital.

## What we do

We are the largest membership organisation for fostering in the UK:

- 55,000 foster carers and 370 fostering services

We offer a range of benefits to ensure our members are:

- Protected
- Supported
- Connected



## **We protect**

- Market-leading legal protection insurance covering the whole family in the event of an allegation including:
  - Legal helpline
  - Stress counselling service
  - Qualified solicitor
  - Up to £150,000 legal expenses cover



## We support

We provide tailored support services to meet the needs of foster carers and fostering services:

- Independent and practice support
- Helplines
- Training
- Publications
- Consultancy

*“The helpline gave me detailed information and advice that helped me find a way forward in a difficult situation. I’m impressed with the service, I only wish I had asked for help before.”*

## We support

- Mortgages
  - The Mortgage Brain
- Home insurance
  - Towergate
- Days out and holidays
  - The Cinema Society
  - Merlin attractions
  - Haven, Hoseasons and Cottages.com

**The Mortgage Brain**  
Your mortgage made simple





## **We connect**

Being a member with us means that you are part of the UK's largest fostering community.

We connect you through:

- Foster Care magazine
- E-newsletters
- Online community
- Regional forums and events



## **We connect**

By listening to and working with our members we create vital change.

- Policies and practice
  - Safer Caring
  - The State of the Nation
- National campaigns
  - Staying Put
  - Foster Carer's Charter
- Innovation
  - Mockingbird
  - Foster Carer Retention Project



## **We connect**

Fostering transforms lives. We want everyone to recognise the crucial role it plays in our society.

We raise the profile of fostering through:

- National media
- Foster Care Fortnight™
- Fostering Excellence Awards
- Sons and Daughters Month





## Register online

Access all of your membership benefits online

Register at: [thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/user/register](https://thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/user/register)

*“Being a member helps me stay informed about what’s going on in fostering and links me in with other foster carers. Feeling like I’m part of a community is really important.”*



**Thank you**

[www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk](http://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk)

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