

What Support will I have as a Foster Carer

As a foster carer, you become an important part of a team that is working in the best interest of the child/young person. Foster carers are there to support, offer guidance and provide a safe environment to children/young people.

MASP will support you

- 24 hr oncall support
- Regular supervision
- Placement support worker allocated to the children placed in your home
- Financial assistance, fortnightly reimbursement.

Foster care entails the usual day-to-day tasks of caring for a child/young person, feeding, clothing, school runs, appointments and engaging with and supervising the child/young person. However, foster care also involves helping the child cope with separation from their own family and helping them to keep in touch with significant family members.



Would you be a Foster Carer?

If you would like more information, please contact MASP's Foster Care team on the below details.

Foster Care Team:

Email: fostercare@masp.org.au

Direct: 03 5021 6500

MASP is compliant with the requirements of the privacy legislation and if families or individuals decide to work with the program they will be provided with further information on the agency's privacy policy.



Mallee Accommodation & Support Program
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MASP FOSTER CARE PROGRAM
A FOSTER CARE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE
Ages 0—18 years

What is Foster Care?

Foster care is a service that provides a safe and supportive home for children and young people aged 0-18 years who cannot live with their birth families for a period of time.

Foster care placements can range from short term to long-term and includes respite care and emergency placements.

The general expectation is that the children/young people who enter care either will return to their parents if possible or will be provided with ongoing safe, stable and loving environments.



Who can become a Foster Carer?

Foster carers come from a wide variety of backgrounds and lifestyles, and have a common goal of providing safe and loving homes for children and young people who can't remain in the care of their parents.

Foster carers have to be 21 years of age or older and can be:

- Single men and women
- Single parents
- Couples with or without children
- People working or retired
- Families



How to Become a Foster Carer?

Step 1: Make an Enquiry

The first step to becoming a MASP foster carer is to make an enquiry, you can do this by phoning us or sending our friendly team and email as foster-care@masp.org.au

Step 2: Meet & Great

Our team will give you some information about foster care and answer any questions you may have via phone or face to face.

Step 3: Information Exchange

We will go through the information pack with you and explain the process to become a foster carer and what to expect. If you are keen to progress further, and we assess that you are able to provide suitable care for a child, we will go through a number of mandatory forms with you, such as police check and working with children's checks..

Step 4: Attend Training & Assessment

Our qualified workers will present "Shared Stories, Shared Lives" Foster Care training. Included is the "Step by Step" assessment as part of the statewide Foster Care process.

This training is flexible and can be done at your pace, and may be individual or in a group setting. The training will cover how MASP can support you as a foster carer and the type of foster care you are interested in.

Step 5: Become a Foster carer

After completing the training process and becoming a MASP registered carer, you will have ongoing support, supervision and training.