



A Chara,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Aoibhinn Dunne, I am the Fostering Recruitment Officer for the Fostering Resource Unit – Cork area.

Tusla is Ireland's statutory provider of fostering services to children and young people. Tusla Fostering Teams across the country recruit, assess, train and support foster carers. Tusla recruits general Foster Carers who are not related to the children they foster, and relative carers who care for a child of an extended family member or someone that they know. Cork is the largest Fostering Department in the country with over 450 foster families who provide support to many children.

At present, Tusla is experiencing a serious shortage of Foster Carers countrywide. We are redoubling our efforts in 2024 to recruit additional foster carers across all age groups in Cork city and county and make every effort to ensure that children who come into care can be cared for in their local area where possible.

We are calling on all early years providers, Primary Schools and Secondary Schools in Cork City and County to help ensure that children and young people who require alternative care can be placed together with their siblings and can remain connected to their local schools and communities. To this end, I am writing to request a recruitment campaign within the school through the use of bulk texting systems, WhatsApp groups or school-based apps such as Aladdin etc. This would simply be a message to all parents and staff alerting them to the shortage of foster carers in their area, inviting them to attend an online fostering information evening and directing them to the www.fostering.ie website for additional information. I would welcome a discussion with you on this matter and I am open to hosting in-person information sessions in your area and for your school community.

I would be grateful if you would consider putting this letter and/or enclosed leaflet on the staff notice board.

Should you have any alternative avenues to share our message and bring awareness to this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at aoibhinn.dunne@tusla.ie /087-1686087.

Any support that you can offer would be appreciated.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Aoibhinn Dunne

Aoibhinn Dunne
Senior Social Work Practitioner / Fostering Recruitment Officer
Fostering Resource Unit

Start Your Journey Today

Every foster child's journey begins with a person like you. Could you be the person who gives a child a chance at a better life? Take the first step towards becoming a foster carer and help make a positive difference in your community. Join us and together we can show children that they are valued, loved, and deserving of a bright future.

Visit: fostering.ie

Freephone: 1800 226 771

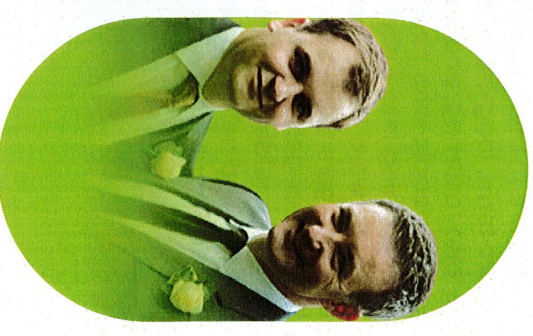
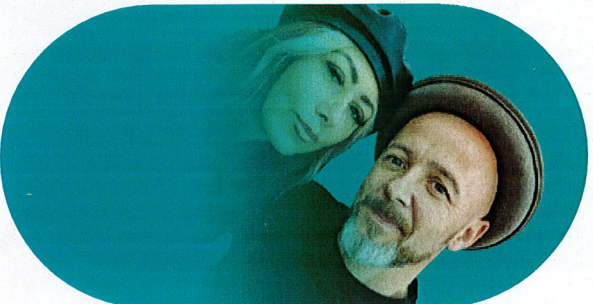
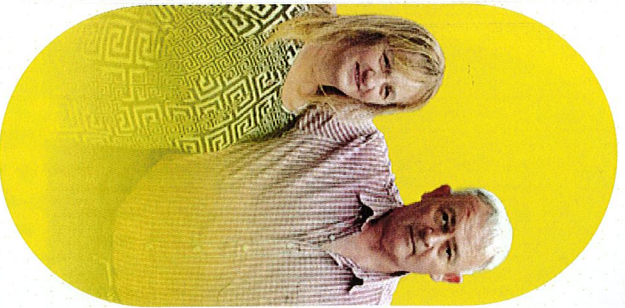
Email: tusla.fostering@tusla.ie

TUSLA
An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Tusla
Fostering

We foster, could you?

Discover the Rewards of Fostering



Make a Difference in a Child's Life

In 2022, 556 children entered foster care for the first time. 228 new foster carers started to provide them with loving homes. We urgently need more foster carers like you - people who are willing to open their hearts and homes to make a positive impact in their community.

Your Unique Journey Matters

Tusla foster carers are diverse and come from all walks of life. Whether you work full time, are single, married, or have your own children, your unique journey is what makes your experience so valuable. You possess the qualities and skills that can make a real difference in a child's life, giving them the safe and loving home they deserve.

Types of Foster Care Available

There are many types of foster care, including short-term, long-term, emergency placements, respite fostering, and supported lodgings for young people who need it. If you know a child who is going into foster care you can also come forward to explore being their foster carer, to give them a familiar face and a stable home. Our dedicated fostering teams are ready to guide you through the different options and help you find the best fit for you and your family.

Supporting you Every Step of the Way

As a foster carer, you won't be alone on this journey. Tusla provides a range of financial and practical supports to ensure you have everything you need to thrive as a foster carer. These supports include additional payments, peer support, training, a 24-hour helpline, access to professional services, and social work support. We are here to support you every step of the way.

Join a Community of Incredible People

By becoming a foster carer, you are joining a community of amazing people who all share the same goal - to provide children with the love and stability they deserve. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of vulnerable children and help shape their future.

Could
you be
Raising
Amazing?

