



## BECOMING A CARER

The process starts with submitting an enquiry and attending an information session. From there we work with you to complete paperwork, training, home visits and assessments, accreditation, and finally placement.

**If you think you can make a positive difference in a child's life and can offer a safe and supportive environment for a child or young person, contact us to learn more!**

 03 5135 9555

 [Gippsland.Carers@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:Gippsland.Carers@anglicarevic.org.au)

 [www.anglicarevic.org.au/fostering](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/fostering)



## FOSTER CARE

Become a Foster Carer for children with disability or complex needs

**Anglicare Victoria is one of the states leading providers of out-of-home care. We provide safe, nurturing homes for children and young people to stay while their family are unable to care for them.**

## **FOSTERING CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY OR COMPLEX NEEDS**

Foster children who have complex needs or disabilities are like any child in care and they need a safe and secure environment and carers to take care of them.

Common disabilities among children in care can include vision impairment, deaf or hard of hearing, mental health conditions, intellectual disability, acquired brain injury or autism spectrum disorder.

When a child with a disability enters foster care, placements include long-term, short-term, respite and emergency care.

Foster carers play an important role in supporting children with a disability to thrive, alongside the child's care team.

***“Fostering is a real team effort and it's great to be part of that team. Doctors, speech therapists, nurses, birth parents and the agency all make up that team and work together with you to get the best outcome for that child.”***

***- Meryl, Anglicare Victoria carer***

## **WHO CAN BE A CARER**

To support children with a disability or complex need, it's helpful if carers have the skills, knowledge and some experience to look after a child with a disability or complex needs.

We are looking for foster carers of all ages and genders from all backgrounds and cultures. It doesn't matter if you're single or partnered, own your home or rent, or if you work or stay at home

People with relevant experience, such as childcare workers, disability workers, medical staff, and those who have interacted closely with individuals with disabilities, can make great foster carers for a child with complex needs. However, anyone who is willing to learn and can create a safe, consistent, and supportive environment is encouraged to apply to foster children with disabilities.

## **WHAT SUPPORT IS PROVIDED**

We're dedicated to offering a supportive environment for both children and carers alike. As a foster carer you are trained, provided with access to comprehensive ongoing 24/7 support, and reimbursed for any out of pocket expenses. You receive ongoing training to help you support the children in your care. This can include training on developmental trauma, sign language and managing complex behaviour for children with disabilities.