



## Specialised Fostering

The Department for Child Protection has a Specialised Fostering service in the Perth metropolitan area.

The service recruits, assesses and trains suitable people in the community to care for children and young people who have complex needs and challenging behaviours, and are unable to be placed with foster families where younger children live.

Children in these programs have usually experienced some form of abuse or trauma, so can display high risk-taking behaviours.

Foster carers in the service are provided with:

- a Senior Support Worker who supports and advocates for them
- an opportunity to work within a team environment, and be involved in the planning and provision of the child's care needs
- ongoing monthly training and specialist training opportunities
- after-hours support from a team member
- financial support with higher subsidy payments
- regular respite
- regular consultation and support from a multi-disciplinary team
- access to psychological services
- access to education services
- access to mentors for the child as necessary.

Specialised Fostering Services mainly provides long-term care (6 months or longer) for children aged 6 to 17 years, but also an intensive placement transition service for children aged 6 to 16 years.

For more information on specialised fostering, call 1300 133 705, or visit [www.childprotection.wa.gov.au](http://www.childprotection.wa.gov.au).

**F**OSTERING  
it's not just the child's life that changes

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