



## Can you help?

- Have some spare time?
- Want to make a difference to children's lives and help Foster Carers?
- Want to contribute to your community?
- Want to share your family life and develop positive relationships with children in need?

Then Respite Foster Care could be for you.

It can also be a great way to start out as a Foster Carer.

To find out more, call Fostering Services on 6380 5900.



Fostering Services  
Respite Program  
Department for Child Protection  
91 Hensman Rd  
SUBIACO WA 6008

Phone: 6380 5900  
Freecall: 1800 024 453  
fostering@dcp.wa.gov.au  
[www.childprotection.wa.gov.au](http://www.childprotection.wa.gov.au)

*"Being Respite Carers has enriched our family's life."*

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

# Respite Foster Care



## Giving Carers and Kids a break

1800 024 453  
[www.childprotection.wa.gov.au](http://www.childprotection.wa.gov.au)

## What is Respite Care?

Respite Carers look after children for short periods of time to give their full time Carers a break.

The break gives Carers the chance to recover from illness, respond to family emergencies or recharge their energy.

Respite Care can be regular and planned for the same child or children, or in response to emergency situations within the foster family.

Respite Carers look after children in their own home for a few hours, a weekend or a few weeks. The length of care is decided before placement.

## What is the Respite Program?



The Respite Program supports full-time Foster Carers and the children in their care.

As a Respite Carer you work as part of a team. This includes the child's full-time Foster Carer and Department staff. A close working relationship helps ensure the needs of the child and carer are met.

All children needing respite are in the care of the Department for Child Protection.

The respite care team matches the child's needs with your experience and skills.

## Who can be a Respite Foster Carer?

The best qualification is that you like being with children.

To be a Respite Carer you:

- May or may or not have your own children
- Can work part-time or full-time
- Can be single or have a partner
- Must be over 18
- May be retired or considering retirement
- Can live anywhere in Western Australia
- Need to have room in your home to accommodate a child.



## What to do next?

If you are interested in giving a child a positive, fun in-home experience, please contact Fostering Services on 6380 5900 for more information or visit [www.childprotection.wa.gov.au](http://www.childprotection.wa.gov.au).

A staff member will arrange to come to your home to discuss the Respite Care Program.

Respite Carers have the same training, assessment and approval process as general Foster Carers.