

Winter 2017

## Can I foster a child for Christmas?

Fosterline Advisors are often asked if someone could foster a child for Christmas; while this is meant well, it would not be in the best interests of a child.

Rather than discouraging their interest, however, we suggest that they think about looking after a child for a longer period and become a foster carer.

To encourage this, we have produced an advent calendar with a different reason to foster every day; not just at Christmas but all the year round.

Please share our daily advent calendar posts via your social media channels to encourage people to foster.



[Read more](#)

# Welcome to the Fosterline Lowdown

- Fosterline's dedicated newsletter for current & prospective foster carers.

## Advice on celebrations

As Christmas and Hanukkah celebrations draw near, foster carers and care leavers share their advice on how to support young people in care during what can be a difficult and emotional time.

To read our OneMoreHome celebrations stories [click here.](#)

## Fostering inquiry

On 7<sup>th</sup> November, young people with experience of foster care joined the Education Committee in questioning the Minister for Children and Families, Robert Goodwill MP, on the current state of fostering in England, and the ongoing fostering stocktake.

Discussion took place around the capacity of the foster care system, issues facing foster carers and how young people feel about their placements and support at school. To watch the final two sessions of the fostering inquiry visit Parliament TV [here.](#)

Rachel, aged 17 and Connor aged 14 expressed their opinions of being in care to the committee of MPs. Connor said, "I feel we've made a massive difference. I think we've put them on the back foot and made them realise foster care in England isn't going as planned,"

[Read more](#)

## Donate for free when Christmas shopping



Shop online from the comfort of your home and make a free contribution to the Fosterline Foundation.

When you sign up to support Fosterline on easyfundraising's website you can raise funds to support our work without it costing you a single penny.

If you activate donations through the easyfundraising website you can shop online in all your favourite stores and still help us raise funds.

Find our more [here.](#)

## Reflections and resolutions



As the year comes to an end, Fosterline advisor Kam highlights the importance of reflection.

[Read more](#)

A new year provides the opportunity to make a change, take on a challenge or to donate your time.

Fosterline plans to harness this enthusiasm by encouraging more people to become foster carers & to be a [Friend of Fosterline.](#)

Fostering services can take advantage of our foster carer recruitment drive and advertise their events on our [noticeboard.](#)



## Christmas opening times

Fosterline will be closed on Christmas Day & Boxing Day, for opening times over the festive period please visit:

[www.fosterline.info](http://www.fosterline.info)

Contact us on **0800 040 7675** or email [enquiries@fosterline.info](mailto:enquiries@fosterline.info)

## Independent evaluation of Fosterline

On 1 September, Fosterline commissioned an independent Social Return on Investment (SROI) evaluation to assess the impact that the service has on current and prospective foster carers. We will publish the results in the New Year on our website and social media sites.