

# Note

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## **Change a future! Drop in and chat to Monmouthshire Foster Care Team**

### ***Image: Fostering Fortnight drop in poster***

Monmouthshire County Council Foster Care Team will be celebrating Fostering Fortnight from Monday May 13<sup>th</sup> until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May with a series of drop in sessions at locations in the north and south of the county. Residents are encouraged to come along to find out how fostering can change a child's future.

Fostering Fortnight is a national campaign to raise the profile of fostering and to show how foster care transforms lives.

Foster care offers a variety of opportunities, and provides the ability to make a huge impact the lives of babies, children and young people in Monmouthshire. Fostering can be a short term, long term or respite care. In particular there is need for carers who can offer a placement to vulnerable mothers or fathers and baby, to provide support and guidance in assisting them to develop their parenting skills. The Monmouthshire Foster Care team are happy to provide information on all options in a bid to encourage more people to transform the lives of children and young people who need extra care and support.

The drop in sessions are taking place at St Pierre Golf Club on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am – 12.00pm and 5.30 – 7.30 pm and the following week at The Angel Hotel, Abergavenny on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> 10.00 am –12.00pm and 5.30pm – 7.30pm.

Cllr Penny Jones Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health said:

'Fostering Fortnight is a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of Foster Carers. Whatever your situation, if you are considering becoming a foster carer please come along and speak to our friendly team who would like to meet you. Just one conversation could start your journey to transform the lives of babies, children and young people in Monmouthshire.'

Foster care is an enriching experience as one Monmouthshire Foster Carer explains:

'My best experience of being a foster carer is that each week I hear from all the children who have been in my care, they come and tell me all about what's happening in their lives. It's so lovely when you are that close to them all it's the best feeling in the world.'

Avid listeners to Sunshine Radio can hear friendly adverts promoting the drop in sessions.

For more information text FOSTER to 60060 with a contact name or call 01873 735950. Find out more about the fostering journey via the Monmouthshire County Council website, visit [www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/fostering) for more details.