

ISSUE 11 2021

Foster

Families who foster

Irish
Foster Care
Association

Published by:

The Irish Foster Care Association (IFCA)

Dublin, 2021

Print edition: ISSN 2009-8790

Online edition: ISSN 2009-8804

Editor: Niamh Barrett, Learning and Development Co-ordinator, IFCA

Aim and scope

‘Foster’ aims to inform IFCA members and a wider readership of those with an involvement in foster care of current issues in foster care and of developments in policy, practice and research. It aims to be accessible to a broad range of readers.

If you are a member of IFCA you will receive a free copy of ‘Foster’. You can also view or download it in the members’ area of our website. You can find further information on how to purchase/subscribe on www.ifca.ie/foster-journal or by emailing niamh.barrett@ifca.ie.

Registered office

Unit 23, Village Green, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 F6XA. Tel: +353 (1) 459 9474 www.ifca.ie

Registered no. 281419 Charity no. CHY 12498 Charities Regulatory Authority’s no. CRA 20036690

Copyright

Authors of articles published in ‘Foster’ retain the copyright of their articles. Permission to reproduce any article with relevant credits must be sought from the author.

Disclaimer

The views expressed in ‘Foster’ are not necessarily the views of IFCA. The authors and IFCA will not accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may be made in this publication. The publisher makes no warranty, express or implied, with respect to the material contained herein.

Cover image: Jan Huber/Unsplash



Foster

Families who foster

Contents

Foreword	3
<i>Catherine Bond</i>	
Fostering teenagers: attachment, trauma and the road to adulthood	5
<i>Aoife Bairéad</i>	
What do we mean by Therapeutic Foster Care?	15
<i>Dr Jane Herd</i>	
What makes love work in relationships? Foster carers and family systems	24
<i>Jim Cantwell</i>	
Our fostering journey: fostering as seen through the eyes of foster carers' birth children	34
<i>Members of the 'I Believe' birth children's group and the Tusla–Child and Family Agency fostering team, Kildare/West Wicklow</i>	
Communication matters: small changes that can help improve family relationships	41
<i>Liz Donohoe</i>	
The family foster care system in Ireland–Advances and challenges	51
<i>Professor Robbie Gilligan</i>	
Glossary	74