

What support is available for Community Foster Carers?

Wungening provides individualised tailored support to each carer's circumstances and needs. Our point of difference is our cultural knowledge and expertise.

Wungening recognises the important contribution our Community Foster Carers make to the lives of the children and young people in our care.

This can look different from family to family, however, there are a range of ways we can help our community foster carers in looking after the child in their care.

This could include:

- Ongoing support and advice from your dedicated Wungening worker

- Ongoing training
- Cultural awareness training and access to cultural support
- Referrals to partnered organisations
- Access to the suite of services Wungening offers
- Dedicated Moort Connect worker whose sole purpose is to support the cultural identity of the child, this support extends to the foster carer as well

Whilst this role is voluntary, our carers are also provided a fortnightly allowance which covers the day-to-day care and living expenses for the child or young person in their care.

The subsidy, paid fortnightly into the carers bank account, is to help cover general ongoing living costs.

If you meet certain Centrelink criteria, you may also be eligible for receive an additional payment for the foster child.

As a Wungening Community Foster Carer you will be part of the Wungening community. A community that wraps around and supports our families and children.

You will have access to our suite of services and benefit from our longstanding relationships with other organisations and services to support you and the child in your care

If you meet certain Centrelink criteria, you may also be eligible for receive an additional payment for the foster child.

MYTH: Children and young people in foster care are too challenging.

FACT: Children and young people in out-of-home care are likely to have faced challenges. However, they are also just like other children; it is critical you approach fostering with an open heart and a willingness to try to understand their needs. Many of the behaviours children display are responses to trauma and/or pain. As a foster carer, you will support and help guide them through different stages and challenges. Your caseworker and Wungening will be walking alongside you on this journey.



**Keeping our kids in care safe and connected
– to family, community and culture**

To learn more or become a community Foster Carer visit:
wungening.com.au

FAQs

Who will support me?

You will be primarily supported by a dedicated Wungening caseworker. They will work with you to help keep the child in your care safe and connected – to family, community and culture. Wungening has a range of services that may benefit the child and carer. Your Wungening caseworker will assist you in linking in with these supports.

Do I receive financial support as a foster carer?

Yes. You will receive a care allowance. This allowance is not a 'payment' for being a carer but is intended to contribute to a range of day-to-day. A care allowance is not income, so it is tax-free and is provided by Wungening directly to carers on a fortnightly basis. The payments vary depending on the age of the child or young person and the complexity of their needs. Further information is in our Wungening Community Foster Carer Subsidy Guidelines & Rates.

What if things go wrong?

As a foster carer, you are eligible for insurance through Department Indemnity Insurance, which covers accidental and intentional damage or loss by a child or young person in care. Wungening also provides insurance for incidents that may arise. Your caseworker will support you if this was to happen.

Is additional support available?

Yes. There are many services and supports available for you and the child in your care such as, community organisations, medical services and other ACCOS. Your Wungening caseworker will support you to engage with the appropriate services and support you throughout the process.

Child Protection Acknowledgement

Wungening acknowledges that Child Protection has historically been a hurtful and traumatic experience for many people across our Community. We are proud to be part of the story shifting those experiences.

Ngalla Kaaditj Whadjuk Noongar Moort Keyen Kaadak Nidja Boodja.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we deliver services to our communities across Boorloo. We pay our respects to the Elders past and present and acknowledge the ancient connection they hold with their Country.

General Enquiries

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