

Qualities of Ideal Foster Parents

Ideal foster parents should have:

- fondness for children, experience and ability in child care
- adequate care plans for children
- appropriate attitudes and skills in parenting and nurturing children¹
- primary education standard or above
- good health and stable emotion
- happy family life and stable living
- stable financial condition, such as having sufficient income, savings or disposable assets
- tidy, clean and safe living environment, including provision of window grilles or installation of secure window opening restricting devices², compliance with safety requirements for kitchen³, and installation of safety devices⁴ for balcony (if any), etc.
- adequate living space, including provision of separate beds and activity space for foster children
- consent from all family members to participate in foster care service
- willingness to accept investigation and guidance by social workers

For enquiries about the above conditions, please call the Central Foster Care Unit of the Social Welfare Department.

Remarks:

¹ The Central Foster Care Unit of SWD and non-governmental organisations operating foster care service will provide relevant training to foster parents regularly to enhance their knowledge and skills in child care and parenting.

² Window grilles (including grilles for louvers) must be installed such that any gap between window frames and grilles does not exceed 4 inches. If installation of window grilles is not permitted by the deed of mutual covenant of the building, secure window opening restricting devices must be installed such that the opening width of windows does not exceed 4 inches.

³ To prevent children from entering the kitchen, the kitchen door shall always be closed or safety gate be installed at the entrance of the kitchen.

⁴ The door to the balcony must be locked. A lockable opening restricting device or other safety devices may also be installed at the door such that the opening width of the door does not exceed 4 inches.

Social Welfare Department

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