



ALL ABOUT ME



NOTES:

My name:.....

My address:

My telephone number:

My social worker's name:

My social worker's number:

Social work Team leader's name:

Social work Team leader's number:

My parent's name:

My parent's number:.....

My school's name:

My school's number:.....

People who are important to me:.....
(e.g. friends and family)

GOING INTO FOSTER CARE

INFORMATION
FOR WHEN YOU FIRST
GO INTO FOSTER CARE



What is this book for?

This is a book for when you first come into 'care'. It was written by children who live in care now or who used to live in care.

Children in care know that you might have lots of questions when you first go into care. They wanted to tell you about some things that they think might help you when you first go into care. It might help you understand:

- * What does being 'in care' mean?
- * Why are you in care?
- * How do you feel about going into care?

HERE IS WHAT THE CHILDREN
IN CARE WANTED TO TELL YOU

What does being 'in care' mean?

- * Children go into care when their parents are not able to care for them. This means that you leave your home and live in a new home with people who care for you and keep you safe.
- * There are over 6000 children in care in Ireland.

A person called a **Social Worker** will help you when you are moving into your new home. They have special training to help you and your family. You should see your Social Worker lots when you first go into care. You should know their full name and number. **You can write them down in the 'ALL ABOUT ME' section at the beginning of this book. Your Social Worker will talk to you about ALL of the things in this book.**

THINGS I
WOULD LIKE
TO ASK OR
TELL MY
SOCIAL
WORKER ABOUT

Being in care:

Why am I in care?

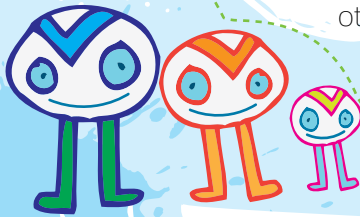
- * There are lots of reasons children go into care. **WHATEVER** the reason is, **it is not your fault.**
- * *Your Social Worker will talk to you about why you have been taken into care.*



HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT GOING INTO CARE ?
Draw or write about how YOU feel about going into care

Where will I live?

- * When you go into 'foster care', you live with another family. They are called your 'foster family';
- * The people in your 'foster family' care for you in the same way that they would care for their own family;
- * The adult in the house is called your 'foster parent'. You can talk to them about what is the best name to call them. It might be by their first name and it might be 'Mam' or 'Dad';
- * If you live with somebody from your own family like your aunt, uncle, grandparent, sister or brother, this is called 'relative foster care';
- * You might have your own room or you might have to share with other children living in the house.



Draw or write about how YOU feel about your new home



Where will I go to school?

- * If possible, your new home will be close enough to your old school so that you do not have to change school;
- * Sometimes, your new home is too far from your old school and you might have to go to a new school.

Your Social Worker will talk to you about this.

THINGS I
WOULD LIKE
TO ASK OR
TELL MY
SOCIAL
WORKER ABOUT

My School:

