

## Foster parenting FAQs

### (Gifu Prefectural Children and Families Division)

**Q1** What is a foster parent?

**A1**

A foster parent is an adult who welcomes a child into their household and raises them. The foster child has to live separately from their biological parents due to certain circumstances, such as parental illness or abuse.

**Q2** How can I become a foster parent?

**A2**

To become a foster parent, a home visit and inspection must be conducted, and you must also take a training course which explains the foster system, etc. For more information, please contact your local prefectural children's advice center.

Children's advice center	Address	Telephone number
Chuo Children's Advice Center, Household Support Division	2563-79 Sagiya Mukai, Gifu-shi	058-201-2111
Seino Children's Advice Center, Household Support Division	5-1458-10 Noginomori- cho, Ogaki-shi	0584-78-4838
Chuno Children's Advice Center, Household Support Division	2610-1 Shimokobi, Kobi- cho, Minokamo-shi	0574-25-3111
Tono Children's Advice Center, Household Support Division	5-68-1 Ueno-cho, Tajimi- shi	0572-23-1111
Hida Children's Support Center, Household Support Division	35-2 Chishima-machi, Takayama-shi	0577-32-0594

**Q3** What types of foster parents are there?

**A3**

There are three types of foster parents. The first is “caregiving foster parents” who look after the foster child until such a time as their biological parents are able to care for them again. The second is “adoption foster parents” who hope to adopt the foster child at some point and become adoptive parents. The third is “relative foster parents” who are third-degree relatives of the foster child.

**Q4** Can foreign married couples become foster parents or adoptive parents? Can parents with a child of their own become foster parents?

**A4**

It is possible for foreign married couples to become foster parents, but there are certain requirements that must be met. For more information, please consult with your local children’s advice center. Parents that have a child, or children of their own (a biological child or children) can also become foster parents.

**Q5** When being approved as a foster parent, what kind of inspections take place?

**A5**

The prospective foster parents’ income, family structure, health, housing situation, parenting approaches, etc. will be examined.

**Q6** What happens with a child’s nationality when they are adopted?

**A6**

What happens with the adopted child’s nationality differs depending on the laws in both the parents’ and child’s home countries. For more information, contact each country’s embassy or consulate.