



Brighter
Futures for
Children



Freddie Future's Story About Fostering

For children aged 3-7 years



Hello. My name is Freddie Future and I'm here to tell you all about being in foster care.



I'm going to tell you about Jay. He's a friend of mine. He's four.

When the grown up from Brighter Futures for Children first came to get Jay, he was very sad.



He didn't know what was happening and he felt a bit scared.

She told him not to worry. She was kind and made him feel better. Her name was Nancy and she told Jay she was a social worker.





Nancy said that she was there to make sure Jay was safe and that everything would be okay.

He didn't like the shouting at home and sometimes he was hungry and very cold. Your story will be different to Jay's but Nancy said all children need to be safe and healthy and happy.

Nancy told Jay he was going to stay with some nice people called foster carers. Then she gave him a backpack with games and colouring pencils in it. He liked it. They got into her car.



Nancy told Jay it was her job to make sure all children are looked after well and that she was there to help him and to help his family.

She said that sometimes children need to stay with someone from Brighter Futures for Children until things were better at home.



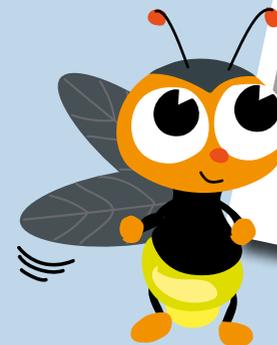
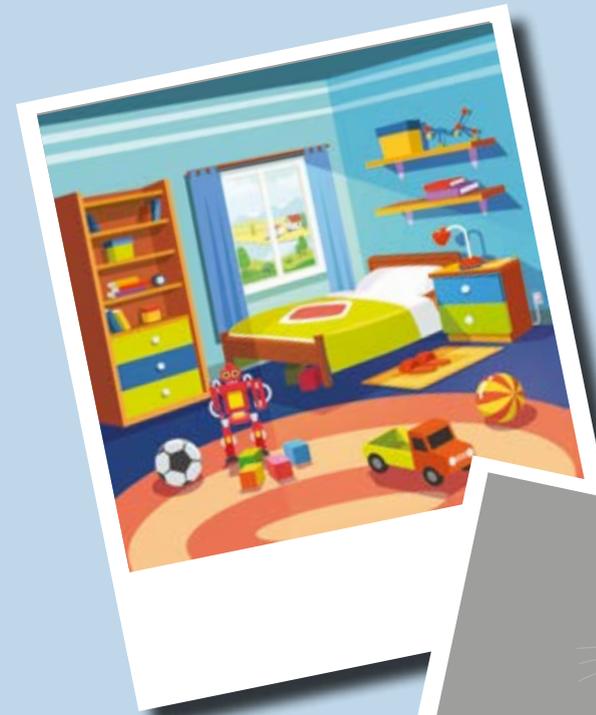
Jay was still a bit sad but she talked to him a lot and even made him smile. He liked her.



Before they got to the house, Nancy showed Jay a picture of the foster carers and read out the words about them. They were called Nene and Yassi. They looked kind.



There was a picture of the bedroom Jay would stay in and another one of their cat. He was called George and he looked like he was grinning.



Jay felt better and wanted to see his room.

Nene and Yassi opened the door and said hello to Jay. Nene took him to see his room and Yassi talked to Nancy.

Jay liked his room. It had a nice bed and a little chair and a desk. There were toys for him to play with and a teddy bear. Then they went downstairs and sat down with Nancy.



Nancy said she was going but would come to see Jay the next day.

She gave him a little card with her name on it and her number. She had drawn a smiley face on it, just for him.



Nene and Yassi showed Jay the kitchen and gave him a drink. It was nice. They asked him if he was hungry. He was but he was worried if they would cook him something he didn't like.

They sat at the table and they asked Jay what foods he liked. He told them and Nene wrote them down. Yassi made him some of the food he said he liked. It was nice.

Nene said they would get some of the other foods tomorrow and she and Yassi both said they would do their best to cook foods he liked.

That made Jay happy.



Yassi helped Jay with some colouring from his backpack and then Nene took him to brush his teeth and get changed for bed.

They gave him some pyjamas and let him hug the teddy that was on his bed.

They tucked him in and Nene read him a story. She stayed with him, holding his hand until he fell asleep.



The next day Nancy came to visit and brought Jay some of his clothes. He was pleased. Nancy said he would stay with Nene and Yassi for a while. They would take him to his new school and pick him up.

Your story may be different to Jay's and you may be able to go to your old school. Don't worry if you can't. Jay made lots of new friends really quickly. The teachers were very nice and made him feel welcome.

When they got back, Nene told Jay that their home was his home for now and that he was safe. They said they liked having him to stay. It was good to hear that.



The weeks went by and Jay felt warm and happy.

Nene and Yassi were kind and George the cat liked him. He purred when Jay stroked him. Once he slept on his foot. He liked that.





Nancy came to see Jay a lot.

She told him that there were other children like him and that he could meet some at a group and they could have fun. He wanted to do that.

Nene went with him and he met other children and their foster carers too. They were given juice and biscuits and played together. It was fun.



Yassi and Nene took Jay to the shops and bought him some new clothes. They had made a list of what Jay needed and he was allowed to help choose them.

The clothes were very nice and Jay felt warm and clean and happy.

Nene let Jay have a friend from school over for tea. That was fun. He liked the food Nene cooked and his friend told Jay he was lucky. Jay thought so too.

Sometimes Jay missed his mum but Nancy made sure he saw her and told him what his mum was doing to try to make things better.





Now that you've read Jay's story, you will know that everything turned out fine for him when he was looked after by foster carers.

Your story won't be the same as his but what is the same is that you will have lovely foster carers who will look after you and you will have your own social worker, although they may not be called Nancy!





And now I want to let you into a little secret. I'm here to help lots of children like Jay and like you. I'm with you all the time. Always.

And one more thing. Everyone thinks the logo for Brighter Futures for Children is shaped like a heart, with hills and sky and a sun. But it's not. It's me, all snuggled up!

The yellow is the end of my tail. I'm safe, I'm happy and I'm there, right beside you, inside Brighter Futures for Children where you'll be safe and happy too.



**Brighter
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Children**



Information about us can be made available in other languages or in a non-written format on request.
We can also help with a translation service.

Brighter Futures for Children is a not-for-profit company, wholly owned by, but independent of, Reading Borough Council. We deliver children's services (including fostering), early help, education and SEND services in Reading.

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