An event to welcome the newest carers to Cambridgeshire County Council's fostering service was held last week.

The last 12 months have seen 24 new families from across Cambridgeshire begin fostering with the local authority and many of these new carers attended to join the celebrations.

The event also marked the launch of Foster Care Fortnight, which runs from 14th-27th May, and aims to raise the national profile of fostering and encourage more people to become foster carers.

John Heron, Service Manager for Fostering, said "We have had another very successful year and are delighted to see so many new and experienced carers begin fostering with Cambridgeshire County Council. However, we urgently need even more local people to follow in their footsteps. There are lots of different types of fostering, and opportunities to care for children and young people of all ages, so whatever your background or experience please get in touch to find out more."

Recently approved foster carer Graham Davies from Sawtry said: “My wife and I decided to go down the route of fostering teenagers. Our own children are at university and we can now help others on the final step towards independence. There is lots of support available and the preparation training has been absolutely first class”.

Carl and Cheryl Williams from Duxford added: “We had experience of seeing the difference fostering makes to children in care. It is amazing to see the child we care for smiling and we know we will be fostering for the rest of our lives now.”

There will be the opportunity for anyone interested in fostering to meet Fostering Service staff at an informal information event which takes place from 6pm-8pm at The Meadows Community Centre in Cambridge on Thursday 24th May. For more details and to book your space please call 0800 052 0078.

To be a foster carer you need to be over 21. Foster carers can be single, married, in a civil partnership or living with a partner. We welcome applications from people of all ethnic backgrounds and from people who have their own children, as well as those who haven't raised children of their own. You don't need to be a homeowner to foster.

Cambridgeshire County Council offers foster carers comprehensive training, 24 hour support and generous allowances. Carers can also earn additional payments as they develop their skills and experience.
Further information on Fostering in Cambridgeshire.