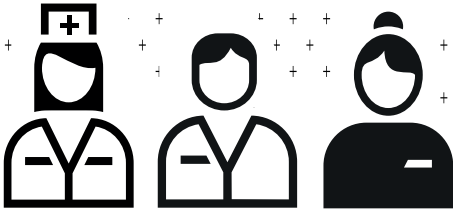




NOVEMBER 2018



# FOSTER CARERS

## **BIG WIN FOR GMB FOSTER CARERS CHILD BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

Another big win for GMB foster carers – the government has extended rights to Child Bereavement Leave. This is a right that foster carers, special guardians and kinship carers will now be entitled to, allowing them time to grieve for the children they have cared for.

GMB has previously appeared before a House of Commons Select Committee calling for greater recognition for foster carers and we led the way in calling on the government to extend the new Child Bereavement Leave laws to foster carers. The government listened and has now extended the Parental Bereavement (Pay and Leave) Act beyond parents to all primary carers, including foster carers, guardians and kinship carers.

GMB and our members welcome this announcement as we have long campaigned for equal rights for foster carers who open their homes to the most vulnerable children in society. We fought politicians of all political parties to hear our calls to include foster carers in this important legislation and it is only right that they will now be entitled to it.

## **Access to 30 Hours Free Childcare**

GMB foster carers played a vital role in campaigning for the government to extend their 30 hours free childcare to 3-4 year olds in foster care. It is only right that children looked after have the same access to childcare as children not in care, where it is in their best interests. The legislation is now in place and some local authorities have already issued guidance to foster carers about how to access this. It has been great to hear from foster carers who have been able to access this and are already seeing improvements in their children looked after.

## **GMB MEMBER BENEFITS**

Don't forget as a GMB member you have access to a wide range of benefits and services. These include:

UnionLine: GMB owned law firm, working for GMB members

<http://www.gmb.org.uk/unionline>

- Free legal advice on contact issues
- Free advice on permanency options – Fostering v Adoption or Special Guardianship Orders
- Free Will service
- 100% of damages awarded in accident or injury compensation claims for themselves or a family members
- Preferential rates on Power of Attorney
- Free legal advice on non employment related issues eg, neighbour disputes, motoring offences, holiday or consumer disputes, immigration, family disputes
- Preferential rates on conveyancing
- Free motor claims service

**JOIN ONLINE: [WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN](http://WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN)**



### National Life Long Learning

<http://www.gmb.org.uk/join/gmb-offers/gmb-national-lifelong-learning-strategy>

### LV Car Insurance Discounts

<https://www.lv.com/gmb?cid=GMBBrand/Site/Homepage/banner/GMB/HomepageA>

### GMB Credit Union

<https://www.gmbcreditunion.com/index.asp>

### Dental Plan

<https://www.union-benefits.co.uk/gmbdental/nhs.php>

### GMB Protect Insurance (Life Cover)

**GMB Protect Insurance (Life Cover)** [https://www.unioninsurance.co.uk/gmb?utm\\_source=GMB+Website&utm\\_medium=Banner&utm\\_campaign=gmb\\_all\\_products\\_banner\\_2014](https://www.unioninsurance.co.uk/gmb?utm_source=GMB+Website&utm_medium=Banner&utm_campaign=gmb_all_products_banner_2014)

### Kirklees Foster Carers Day Out

GMB Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region B05 Organising Branch paid for a coach for Kirklees Foster Carers to their children looked after on a trip to Clifton Park in Rotherham. All the foster carers and children thoroughly enjoyed their day out and finished it with ice creams for everyone!



### COMING SOON!

#### Allegations

GMB will shortly be releasing a consultation survey for all members to complete and inform us of their experiences of allegations whilst fostering. Keep an eye out before the end of November and have your say.

Not a GMB member? Join today – [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)

Foster Carers pay just £7.96 per month for GMB membership

Do you want to be a GMB Contact or Representative for Foster Carers in your area? If so, email your name, contact details and who your fostering provider is to: [Rachel.harrison@gmb.org.uk](mailto:Rachel.harrison@gmb.org.uk)

**JOIN ONLINE: [WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN](http://WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN)**

