

# My little shadow... – Being a mum and best friend

So we all have a shadow, generally only when the sun projects one...

But us mums and maybe even more so, loan parent mums, have a shadow following us around pretty much 24/7 especially if they are a loan child..

We are not only their mum, but technically their best friend, their mum, dad, brother, sister all rolled into one.

They want to understand every little thing we do and why we do it, how we do it and what happens next.

I find I often tell my little dude to go over there, just to be away from me in fear of learning tasks he shouldn't know how to do as they may be dangerous for such a curious little mind.

I remember when I struggled to grasp the loan parent duties, due to exhaustion, not enough hands, trying to work from home so that I was able to mind my son and the weekly visit to my family home... That's when you either felt proud that you were doing good or that you looked like you were struggling, all because of the look on your own mums face.. And when leaving, my mum would say to my little dude, 'be a good boy now and look after moma'.

Well, my little man took that totally to heart, took it as his duty to look after me as much as I do him.

If I let something fall, he rushes in and says, I'll get it!

If I have a headache, he becomes 'doctor dude' and puts

his little hand on my forehead...

If I look sad, his little eyes looks at me and gives me a kiss and a cuddle,...

He always wants to help make dinner or carry the shopping bags after filling the trolley!

He loves photos of us together, he loves me and I him!

Walking down the street with his little hand in my hand and him saying, 'because I love you'!

Makes him the best shadow I could ever wish for ☐

*Claire*