



Are you being
cared for by someone
else who isn't your
mum and dad?
We care!

A guide to private
fostering for children.

What is Private Fostering?

If you are under 16 (or 18 if you have a disability) and live with an adult who is not a close relative, such as a brother, sister, aunt, uncle, step parent, grandparent or your mum and dad, then you are privately fostered. Your mum or dad will have agreed that the other person can take care of you and they may be paying some money to help the person do this.

Why does it happen?

Your mum, dad or guardian want to make the best decisions for you and may feel you living away for a while is the best option, they may be experiencing some difficulties & may have asked another adult to care for you. This could be for a number of different reasons.

What will happen first?

The social worker will come and see you where you live and make sure you are happy. They will talk to the person who cares for you and see if you need any help. They will talk to your mum and dad to find out how much family time they have with you and how they are able to make sure you are being well cared for.

Can I still see my mum or dad?

Yes, this is one of the things that we can talk to you about. We will also speak to your mum and dad and the people caring for you about this.

What if I am not happy?

If you are not happy where you are living you can tell us when we visit you or you can talk to an adult that you do know well and trust, perhaps a teacher at school. These people can then work together to help sort out any problems and support you.



What should my Private Foster carer do?

While you are living with your private foster carer they are responsible for your day-to-day care such as:

- Making sure you are well cared for such as having regular meals, clean clothes, own bed
- Make sure you go to school so you can learn
- Take you to the doctor or the hospital if you are sick or injured, or if you need vaccinations
- Take you to the dentist so your teeth are looked after properly
- Make sure you have the chance to make friends and to enjoy sports and hobbies that you like
- Help you stay in touch with your family

Get in touch!

Who can I speak to if I want to find out more?

If you want to ask anything about private fostering, please contact our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub on **0300 555 2866 (option 2)**

For further information please scan the QR code.



Right for Children, Families and Adults

