

## How can I find out more about private fostering?

If you have any questions or need to ask anything about being a privately fostered child please contact:

### The Children's Hub

☎ 01429 284284

✉ childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk

## Out of hours and weekend contact

### Emergencies Only

☎ (08702) 402994

If you would like this information in any other language or format for example **large print** or audio please contact 'The Children's Hub' 01429 284284.

إذا كنت ترغب الحصول على هذه المعلومات بلغات أو بأشكال أخرى على سبيل المثال بالطبعة الكبيرة أو بالشريط المسجل فالرجاء الإتصال 'بدايفرستي تيم' 'The Children's Hub' على هاتف رقم 01429 284284 ARABIC

اگر شما این اطلاعات را به زبان یا شکل دیگری مثلا چاپ بزرگ یا بصورت صدا میخواهید لطفا با تیم دایورسیتی (گوناگونی) 'The Children's Hub' با شماره 01429 284284 به تماس شوید FARSI

Si vous souhaitez obtenir ces informations dans d'autres langues ou sous un autre format, par exemple, en gros caractères / version audio, veuillez contacter l'équipe 'The Children's Hub' au n° 01429 284284 FRENCH

ئەگەر تۆنەم زانیاریە بە دەستت بەکەوت بە زمانەکانی تر یان بە شێوەیەکی تر بۆ نمونە چاپی گەورە/یان بە تیبی تۆمارکراو تکایە پەبۆندی بکە بە 'تیمی دایفیرستی' 'The Children's Hub' لە سەر ژمارەى تەلەفون 01429 284284 KURDISH

欲要這份資訊的其它語言版或其它版式例如大字體印刷/錄音帶，請致電 01429 284284 接洽 '多元化隊' 'The Children's Hub' CHINESE

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਬਣਤਰ ਜਾਂ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ, ਵੱਡੀ ਛਪਾਈ ਵਿੱਚ ਜਾਂ ਟੇਪ/ਸੀ ਡੀ 'ਤੇ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 'The Children's Hub' ਨੂੰ 01429 284284 ਨੰਬਰ ਉੱਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ। PUNJABI

اگر آپ ان معلومات کو کسی بھی اور زبان یا انداز، مثلاً بڑے پرنٹ/آڈیو ٹیپ وغیرہ میں حاصل کرنا چاہیں، تو 'ڈایورسٹی ٹیم' 'The Children's Hub' کو اس نمبر پر فون کیجئے 01429 284284 URDU



# Private Fostering Information for Young People

Local Safeguarding  
Children Board  
L S C B  
Stockton-on-Tees

Stockton-on-Tees  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children and Young People

Big plans for the young people of our Borough

## What is Private Fostering?

Private Fostering is when you are under 16 (or under 18 if you have a disability) and you live with an adult who looks after you instead of your Mum or Dad. The person who looks after you will not be related to you, like your uncle or nana. Your Mum or Dad will have agreed that this person can look after you and may even be paying them some money to do so.

## Why can't I live with my Mum or Dad?

Your Mum or Dad might not be able to look after you for many different reasons. They may feel that it is best to ask another adult to look after you for a while.

## What happens to me?

If you are privately fostered it means that you will be living with a private foster carer in their house rather than at home with your family.

Your parents and your private foster carer must tell the Local Authority that you are living in someone else's house. Sometimes when your private foster carer or your family have not told us that you are not living at home, your teacher or your doctor might do so.



## What will the Local Authority do?

The law says that the Local Authority must make sure that you are well looked after where you are living and they will ask a social worker to visit you to see if you are OK. A social worker is a person employed by the Local Authority whose job is to make sure that children and young people are properly cared for.

They will come to see where you live to make sure that you are happy living with the private foster carer. They will talk to the person looking after you to see if they need any help.

They will even get in touch with your Mum and Dad to make sure they know you are being well looked after.

## Can I still see my Mum and Dad?

Yes. Your Mum and Dad and the person looking after you will make arrangements for you to see your Mum and Dad. When they are making arrangements, they should think about what you want.

## What information will I be given before I move in with the Private Foster Carers?

These are some of the things that you should know before you move in with your carers:

- What the carers are going to be like. This should happen before you move in with them
- If your carers have children of their own
- Your new carers' names, address and telephone number (so you don't get lost)
- Your new carers' ages and some other basic information about them such as whether they work and what they like to do
- Your Social Worker's telephone number in case you want to contact them



- How to contact the Police if you need to
- How you can make new friends after you move in and how you can invite friends to your carer's house
- Because you will be living with your carers, you need to know what the rules of their house are
- If you weren't born in this country, you should be given information about the country you came from, its traditions, culture and religion
- You also need to know that your carers aren't your real parents – if you are little, you might not understand this and it needs explaining

## What if I am not happy?

If you are not happy where you are living you can always talk to a social worker about your worries. The social worker will try to help to make things better. They will talk to the person looking after you about your worries.

If you become really unhappy with the arrangement and where you are living the social worker will try to sort things out for you.

Do not forget though, most things go very well with private fostering.