

# Do you **LOOK**k

after someone  
else's child?

Leaflet for  
private foster  
carers about  
private  
fostering



## What is Private fostering?

Children who are cared for on a full-time basis by people who are not their parents or a close relative may be in private foster care.

Private foster care occurs when a child under 16 (or under 18 if disabled) is cared for, and provided with accommodation, for more than 28 days by an adult who is not a parent or close relative\*.

\*Close relatives are defined by the Children Act 1989 as:

- Step Parents
- Brothers or Sisters
- Grandparents
- Aunt or Uncle (whether full blood, half blood or by marriage)

### Private fostering situations may involve:

- Children sent to this country for education or health care by birth parents from overseas.
- Children living with a friend's family as a result of parental separation, divorce or arguments at home.
- Teenagers living with a family of a boyfriend or girlfriend
- Children whose parents' study or work involves unsuitable hours which make it difficult for them to use ordinary day or after school care.



If you are privately fostering a child or children, you should read the following information. This will help you to understand what you must do as a private foster carer.

### What must I do if I intend to foster a child privately?

The law requires that you tell your local council at least six weeks before the arrangement begins that you intend to privately foster a child, unless the arrangement is made in an emergency, in which case the notification must be made within 48 hours.

If you live in Solihull, you should notify the Duty Assessment Referral Team.

Make sure the child's parents tell you as much as possible about the child, including health records, eating preferences, school records, hobbies, religion and cultural background. This will help you to understand the child and take better care of him or her.

**Call: 0121 788 4375**

Your role  
safeguarding  
privately  
fostered  
children

## **What will happen**

Solihull Council has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of privately fostered children. This means a social worker will ensure:

- The child / young person is safe
- The child / young person is seen regularly and
- Advice, help and support is available

## **How can I get help while I am privately fostering?**

You can contact Children's social work services for help and advice on caring for the child/ren that you are privately fostering.

You can also talk to the child's teacher, your doctor or health visitor. They will be able to give you advice on the best care for the child.

## **Will I get any support?**

There may, in some cases, be help available through Solihull Council for children assessed to be "in need". This may include a range of support services and, in exceptional cases, cash.

## **Can I claim social security benefits and how do I go about it?**

You may be able to claim social security benefits such as Child Benefit, Tax Credits and possibly Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance if you already receive Child Benefit. Contact your local Benefits Agency Office.

## **What if the child is leaving my care?**

You must tell the Council within 48 hours that the child has left your care, or if your circumstances change, e.g. someone else comes to live with you.

You must give the name and address of the person who will be looking after the child.

**You have a legal duty to tell  
your local Council.  
Children's Social Work  
Services are here to help you.**

For a large print or audio tape version of this leaflet please call 0121 704 8009.

Kjo fletushkë është rreth mbikëqyrjes së fëmiut të dikujt tjetër, nëse ju duhen më shumë informata apo këshilla, ju lutem përdorni detajet e kontaktit më lartë.

هذا المنشور حول قيامك برعاية أطفال أشخاص آخرين، فإذا كنت تحتاج إلى نصائح أو معلومات أكثر فالرجاء استخدام المعلومات الموجودة في الأعلى للإتصال بنا.

এই প্রচারপত্রটিতে অন্যের বাচ্চাকে দেখাশোনা করার ব্যাপারে বলা হয়েছে, আপনার যদি আরও বিস্তারিত তথ্য বা পরামর্শের প্রয়োজন থাকে, তবে দয়া করে উপরোক্ত যোগাযোগের বিবরণীগুলো ব্যবহার করুন।

這是關於帶養別人孩子的資料。如果你需要更加詳細的資訊或指導，請用上述的聯係資料接觸我們。

این برگه اطلاعاتی به شما در صورتیکه از طفل شخص دیگر مراقبت میکنید اطلاعات فراهم میکند. جهت کسب اطلاعات بیشتر و یا دریافت مشورت لطفاً به شماره تلفن بالا تماس بگیرید.

Ce dépliant donne des explications pour s'occuper de l'enfant d'une autre personne. Pour tout renseignement complémentaire ou conseil, veuillez utiliser les coordonnées du contact indiquées ci-dessus.

કોઈ અન્ય વ્યક્તિનાં બાલકની સંભાળ રાખવા વિષે આ પત્રિકા છે. તમને વધારે માહિતી અથવા સલાહ મેળવવાની જરૂર પડે, તો કૃપા કરી ઉપર જણાવેલ વિગતોનો ઉપયોગ કરો.

نہم بلاوکه‌ره‌وه‌به دہ‌بارہ‌ی ناگاداریوونت له مندالی کہ‌سی تر، نہ‌گہر بی‌نووستت به ناموزگاری یاخود به‌زانیاری تر‌ه‌ه‌به نکایه‌ په‌یوه‌ندیمان پی‌یکه به‌به‌کاره‌ینانی زانیاریه‌کانی سه‌ره‌وه.

ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਦੂਸਰੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਦੇ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਦੇਖਭਾਲ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਹੈ। ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਹੋਰ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਲਾਹ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉੱਪਰ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਵੇਰਵੇ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

که تاسی دبل کس ماشوم ساتنه کوی دالیفلپ تاسی ته معلومات وړاندی کوی. که تاسی سربیره معلومات یا مشوری ته ضرورت لری نومهربانی وکړی په پورتنی شمیره تیلفون وکړی.

Tani waa warqad ku saabsan dadka kale ee xanaaneeya caruurtaada,

hadii aad u baahan tahay warbixin dheeraad ah ama talo, fadlan la

xidhiidh talifoonka kor ku qoran.

Hii ni karatasi juu ya kumtunza mtoto wa mtu mwingine. Ukitaka habari au shauri jingine, tafadhali uyatumie maelezo ya kuwasiliana huko juu.

اس لیفلٹ میں آپ کے لیے معلومات ہیں جب آپ کسی اور کے بچے کی نگہداشت کر رہے ہوں، اگر آپ کو مزید معلومات یا مشورہ درکار ہو تو اوپر دیے گئے رابطے کے ذرائع استعمال کیجئے۔

Duty Assessment Referral Team, Solihull Council

Chelmsley Wood Library Stephenson Drive Chelmsley Wood B37 5TA

[www.solihull.gov.uk](http://www.solihull.gov.uk) 0121 788 4375

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