

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:

Warrington Borough Council
Service Reception Team
Rylands Street
Warrington

Tel: 01925 444239

If you need this information in other languages please ring 0161 234 3282



Explaining Private Fostering

A Guide for Children & Young People



Warrington Borough Council



CS 0004

Every Child Matters in Warrington

[1]

What is Private Fostering?

Private Fostering is when you are under the age of 16 (or 18 if you have a disability) and you live with an adult (Private Foster Carer) who is not your Mum, Dad or a close relative like your Grandparent, Aunt or Uncle. Your Mum or Dad will have agreed that this person can look after you if they are unable to take care of you themselves.

What happens to me?

If you are living with a private foster carer, your Mum and Dad and the private foster carer must tell the Local Authority (the Council) that you are not living your parents. Teachers, doctors or school nurses may also let the Council know.

What will the Local Authority do?

The Law says that the Council must make sure that you are well looked after where you are living. A worker will visit you and ask you about how you are feeling, and make sure that you are safe and well. Their job is to make sure that you are properly cared for.

They will talk to your Mum and Dad to make sure that they know you are being well cared for.

Even though you are living with a private foster carer, you will still be able to see your Mum or Dad.



[2]

Things you should know about your Private Foster Carer before you move in?

- Their names, address and telephone number.
- Names and ages of their own children.
- Basic information about the carers, including their age, job, and hobbies.
- What it will be like living with your foster family and what their house rules are.
- How you will be supported to find out about the culture of the country where you were born.
- Who to talk to if you are feeling unhappy.

You will also be given the worker's telephone number in case you want to talk to them.

What happens next?

The worker will visit every six weeks and talk to both you and your carer to make sure that you are ok. If you are not happy, you can talk to the worker in private about what is making you feel unhappy and they will try to sort things out for you.

