

A photograph of two women in a friendly conversation. The woman on the left is smiling and looking towards the woman on the right. The woman on the right is wearing a red floral sari and has her arm around the other woman's shoulder.

# Private Fostering

A guide for children and young people

## What is Private Fostering?

Sometimes your family, your parent(s) or a very close relative, asks someone else to look after you for a while. You may go to stay with them in their home or you may have chosen to stay with someone else you know.

If you stay with this person for more than 28 days this is Private Fostering. The person looking after you is called a private foster carer. A social worker will come and visit you because it is their job to make sure you are looked after properly and explain everything about the help you can receive.

## Why does a social worker visit?

A social worker will come and see you where you live, spend time talking to you, and gather your wishes and feelings. The social worker will visit you regularly and overtime they should get to know you well enough for you to speak to them about anything that is worrying you or if there is anything you need help with. He/she will also talk to your parent(s) to make sure they know you are being well cared for. They will also provide support, advice and help to you and your family to see if you can return to live with them in the future.

## Who is responsible for me?

Your parent(s), are still 'responsible' for you. This means that when your private foster carers are looking after you, you are still your parent's child and they must make all the important decisions in your life.

It's important that your parents try to stay in touch with you and to visit, ring or write to you as often as they can. Your social worker will discuss this with you, gather your wishes and feelings about contact and give you some help if you need it.

Your parents must be confident that you are being well looked after and Social Care will work with your parent(s) and your carer to ensure you are safe and have all you need.



## What should my private foster carers do to help me?

Your private foster carer must do all the everyday things that all young people need, such as;

- Make sure you eat breakfast, lunch, dinner
- Make sure your hair and skin is properly looked after
- Make sure you have warm clean clothes and a bed of your own and offer a nurturing home environment to live in.
- Take you to the doctor or 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 a chance to make friends and enjoy sports and hobbies that you like
- Help to stay in touch with your family
- Help you to follow your religion and customs that are important to you and your family.



## Will I be able to talk about how I feel?

Whilst you are living with your private foster carer there will be regular meetings with you, your private foster carer and your social worker. These meetings talk about how you are getting on, the good things or things you would like to change. The meeting is an important part of helping decide, with you, what is best for you. You can come to the meetings and share your views. If you don't want to attend, that's OK. You can talk to your social worker who can bring your views or we can organise an advocate to do this for you.

We can give you this information in any other way, style or language that will help you access it. Please contact us on **01332 642376** or [derby.gov.uk/signing-service](http://derby.gov.uk/signing-service)

### Punjabi

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਨਾਲ, ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਦੇ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ, ਜਿਹੜੀ ਇਸ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕਰਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਇੱਥੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ: **01332 642376** ਜਾਂ [derby.gov.uk/signing-service](http://derby.gov.uk/signing-service)

### Polish

Aby ułatwić Państwu dostęp do tych informacji, możemy je Państwu przekazać w innym formacie, stylu lub języku. Prosimy o kontakt: **01332 642376** lub [derby.gov.uk/signing-service](http://derby.gov.uk/signing-service)

### Slovak

Túto informáciu vám môžeme poskytnúť iným spôsobom, štýlom alebo v inom jazyku, ktorý vám pomôže k jej sprístupneniu. Prosím, kontaktujte nás na tel. č.: **01332 642376** alebo na stránke [derby.gov.uk/signing-service](http://derby.gov.uk/signing-service)

### Urdu

یہ معلومات ہم آپ کو کسی دیگر ایسے طریقے، انداز اور زبان میں مہیا کر سکتے ہیں جو اس تک رسائی میں آپ کی مدد کرے۔ براہ کرم **01332 642376** یا [derby.gov.uk/signing-service](http://derby.gov.uk/signing-service) پر ہم سے رابطہ کریں

