



# Are you looking after someone else's child or do you know someone who is?

## Are you a private foster carer?

### What is private fostering?

Private fostering is the term used when a parent or guardian places a child or young person aged 16 or under (or 18 if they are disabled) in the care of someone else who is not a close relative or an officially approved foster carer for a period of more than 28 days.

You might be a private foster carer without realising it.

A private foster carer may be:

- A friend of the family
- The parent of your child's friend
- Someone who is previously unknown to the child's family who is willing to privately foster a child

If someone else is looking after your child, or if you are looking after someone else's child, you could be privately fostering. You must tell Wokingham Borough Council.

For more information or to tell us about a private fostering arrangement please contact:

**Wokingham Borough Council** (0118) 908 8002 [triage@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:triage@wokingham.gov.uk)

### What will happen when I tell the Council?

We will be able to offer any advice or support that you or the child might need while they are in your care. We will ask for details such as who will be the caring for the child and where will they be living; details about their history, health and school. This is to ensure the child or young person is safe and well cared for and someone may come to visit you to talk about this.

More information at: [www.wokingham.gov.uk/private-fostering](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/private-fostering)