

## What is Private Fostering?

You are in a private fostering arrangement if you are under the age of 16 or 18 if registered disabled, and your parent/s or close family ask an adult to care for you for a period of 28 days or more.

If you think you are living in a private fostering arrangement your carer must notify the Local Authority as soon as possible on:

Tel: 01709 823976

### Other Helpful Contacts:

Child Line: 0800 1111

([www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk))

NSPCC: 0800 800 5000

([help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk))

### Contact information

Family Placement Service

Floor 1, Wing C

Riverside House

Main Street

Rotherham

S60 1AE

Phone: 01709 823976

E-mail: [private.fostering@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:private.fostering@rotherham.gov.uk)

For more info visit our website:  
[www.fosteringinrotherham.org.uk](http://www.fosteringinrotherham.org.uk)

## Are you being cared for by someone else ?

**A guide for young people who  
may be privately fostered**



## What support will Rotherham Council provide me?

The law says that the council needs to know who is looking after you and where you are living to make sure that you are safe, happy and are being properly cared for.

When the council hears about the private fostering arrangement, it will arrange for a social worker to carry out an assessment of your carer(s) and the environment in which you live. You will then be allocated a social worker. Who will come and see you every 6 weeks for a visit. They will give you their contact number so you can ring them if needed.

This is to ensure that you are happy in the home you are living in and you feel safe. You and your parents will also be asked about what you think of your situation (if it is possible to contact them).



## What should my Private Foster Carer provide for me?

Whilst you are living in a private fostering arrangement the carer should provide you with your day to day needs. For example they should:

- Ensure that your health needs are taken care of
- Make sure that you go to school
- Take you to the dentist to ensure that your teeth are properly looked after
- Help you stay in touch with your family
- Help you follow any religions and customs that are important to you
- Provide you regular meals
- Make sure that you have a chance to make friends and take part in activities that are important to you and that you enjoy



## What should my Private Foster Carer Not Do?

Your foster carer should not:

- Change your name
- Take you overseas without the agreement of your parents
- Move you to another family without arranging this with your parents and informing Rotherham Council
- Change your school without making an arrangement about this with your parents first.

**Remember!** Your parents are still responsible for you and they will make all important decisions about you and what happens to you.

## What do I do if I have problems with my Private Foster care arrangements?

You can contact your allocated social worker and ask to speak with her/him to discuss any problems that you may have. If you are unable to contact your social worker and you are concerned about your safety and welfare contact The Family Placements Team, ChildLine or NSPCC (please see over-leaf for details).

