



What is Private Fostering? Information for you to know.....

Somebody's Else's Child
Everyone's Concern

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/fostering

 **Milton Keynes**
City Council

What is Private Fostering?

- When you live with someone who is not your mum, dad, brother, sister, grandma, grandad, auntie, or uncle for more than 28 days.

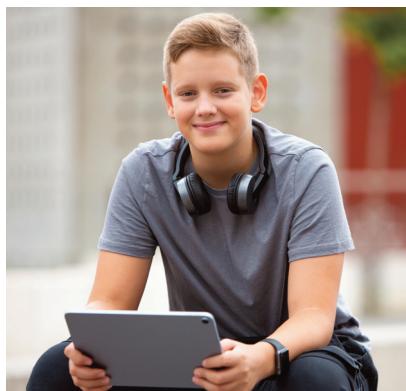
Why do others need to know where I am staying?

- It is part of **British law** that parents, carers, your teacher, sports coach, or anyone involved in your life, tell Milton Keynes City Council if you are not living in the care of your close family members.

If a child or teenager is not living with their close family, the reasons for this and where you are living need to be discussed with your carers and you. It is important that the Local Authority feel you are somewhere safe, are being cared for and to offer support if this is needed.

Why would you live with someone who is not a close family member?

- Mum and/or dad are having some difficulties.
- Mum and/or dad need to go to another country.
- Mum and/or dad live in another country.
- Mum and/or dad need to go into hospital for long term treatment.
- You may have had difficulties and/or an argument with your mum and/or dad and need to live somewhere else for a while.
- You are going to school in England, but your home country is abroad.





What can you expect from your private foster carers?

- They will make sure you have enough food to eat.
- They will make sure you have somewhere clean and warm to stay and a bed to sleep in.
- Your private foster carers will support you to go to school every day and support you with your schooling.
- Your private foster carers will take you to the doctor if you are unwell and seek other medical support as this is needed e.g. if you have difficulties with your mental health.
- They will help you to stay in touch with your family.
- They will make sure you have appropriate, clean clothing suitable for school and clothing to wear outside of school.
- They will support you with activities you may like to do outside of school.
- Your private foster carers will help you to follow your religion.

Who will visit me?

- A social worker will visit you every 6 weeks to make sure that you are well, your needs are being met and whether there is any support your carers or you need.
- Your social worker will always talk to you on your own so that you can speak honestly. They may visit you in your private foster home, in the community or visit you at your school.



When can I go home?

- You can go home when your carers and mum and/or dad decide it is the right time for you.

What if I have a problem whilst I am living with my private foster carer?

- You can talk to or contact your social worker, speak to a teacher, your friends, school nurse or someone you trust.

If you need to contact our team in between the times your social worker visits you, our telephone number is **01908 253206** or

Fosteringassessmentduty@miltonkeynes.gov.uk

We have a duty worker available Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm.

Milton Keynes City Council
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