

Living with someone who is not your parent?



Private Fostering

What children and young
people need to know

What is private fostering?

If you are under 16 (or 18 if you have a disability) and live with an adult who is not a close relative, such as a brother, sister, aunt, uncle, step parent, grandparent or your mum and dad, then you are privately fostered. Your mum or dad will have agreed that the other person can take care of you and they may be paying some money to help the person do this.

Why does it happen?

Your mum and dad might be experiencing some difficulties and may have asked another adult to care for you. This could be for a number of different reasons.



What happens to me?

The law says that because you are being cared for by someone who is not a close relative, we need to make sure you are well supported and cared for.

What will the social worker do?

The social worker will come and see you where you live and make sure you are happy. They will talk to the person who cares for you and see if you need any help. They will talk to your mum and dad to find out how much contact they have with you and how they are able to make sure you are being well cared for.



Can I still see my mum or dad?

Yes, this is one of the things that we can talk to you about. We will also speak to your mum and dad and the people caring for you about this.

What if I am not happy?

If you are not happy where you are living you can tell us when we visit you. If you do not know this person very well yet you can talk to an adult that you do know well and trust, perhaps a teacher at school. These people can then work together to help sort out any problems and support you.



Who can I speak to if I want to find out more?

If you want to ask anything about private fostering, you can talk to a social worker by calling **01902 555392** or you can find more information online at **www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/privatefostering**



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This information can be made available in a range of languages and formats. To request this, please call **01902 551133** or visit **www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/privatefostering**