



**Brighter
Futures for
Children**

**Does your child live
with someone else?**

**Does someone else's
child live with you?**

This could be Private Fostering

If you live in the borough of Reading; if you are not related to the child or young person you are caring for and if they are staying with you for more than 28 days, the law says that you must inform Brighter Futures for Children.

For advice and support call

0118 937 3641 or visit us online

www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org/fostering



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@BFCCChild



Brighter Futures for Children



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Private Fostering

Under the Children Act 1989 (part IX) you MUST tell us if you:

- look after someone else's child in a private fostering arrangement or
- ask someone not closely related to you to look after your child in a private fostering arrangement.

What is Private Fostering?

Private fostering takes place when:

- a home and care is provided to a child under 16 years old (or under 18 years old if the child is disabled) by someone who is not related to them
- In this case a relative includes grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles or aunts. It also includes half relatives, step parents and people who are related to the child by marriage.

- it is for 28 days or more
- it is a private arrangement between the carers and the child's parents or guardian.

Examples of private fostering arrangements include:

- Children who are sent to live in this country for education and/or health care by birth parents who live overseas
- Children who live with a friend's family because of separation, divorce or arguments at home
- Teenagers who live with the family of a boyfriend or girlfriend
- Children whose parents work or study commitments involve unsociable hours which makes it difficult for them to use ordinary day or after school care
- Children whose parents may have a long term illness and are unable to look after them
- Children who are sent to friends during the holidays.

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