



Get in touch

If you think the information in this leaflet describes you and how you are living (or even if you are unsure), you can:

- call or email us
- ask the person caring for you to contact us
- ask your parents to speak to us

Even if you are happy, we need to know so we can make sure you are safe, cared for and your needs are met in your new home.

 01344 352005

 private.fostering@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

If you need a reasonable adjustment to communicate with us, please call 01344 352000 or email: customer.services@bracknell-forest.gov.uk



Private Fostering

A guide for children living away from home

Bracknell Forest Family Placement Team

www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/private-fostering



Who is this leaflet for?

This information is for you if you are:

- aged 16 or younger (18 if you have a disability)
- being cared for by someone who is not related to you
- living away from your family home for more than 28 days or more

What is private fostering

Your parents are allowed to let someone else to look after you. When they do this it is known as private fostering.

Even if you are happy, the council needs to know where you live to make sure you are safe and that your needs are met.

You, your parents, or the person person looking after you can let us know.



How the council can help you

Our job is not to interfere.

Our job is to help make sure your health, education and care needs are met. We can help your parents and the person looking after you put a plan in place that keeps your life as normal as possible:

- staying at your school
- keeping up hobbies
- making sure everyone knows about your health needs
- making sure your carers know respect your religious needs
- helping your carers connect you to important aspects of your culture and background
- arranging time to speak or see your family

When a plan is in place, we make regular visits to check in with you to make sure you are happy.

We only need to take action if we believe you or something happening in your life is unsafe, unhealthy or unsuitable for you.

Why private fostering happens

You could be living away from home for many reasons:

- separation/divorce or problems at home
- you are living with the family of your girlfriend or boyfriend
- a parent might have long-term illness
- a parent might work far away or work such long hours they can't be at home for you
- you travelled to the UK for your education or health reasons
- you were separated from your parents when travelling to the UK

