

Somebody else's child?

What is private fostering?

Private fostering is when a child under 16 years old (or 18 if they are disabled) is looked after for 28 days or more by a person who is not a close relative or someone with parental responsibility. This could include:

- ★ Children, adolescents and teenagers living apart from their families
- ★ Minority ethnic children with parents working or studying in the UK
- ★ Children living with host families for a variety of reasons



What the law says

By law, anyone involved in private fostering must inform their children's or social services in writing. This includes the child's parents, private foster carers and any third parties

Who to contact

Please contact your local children's services or social services to find out more or inform them of a private fostering arrangement:

Plymouth City Council

Tel: 0800 085 8034
privatefostering@plymouth.gov.uk
www.plymouth.gov.uk/privatefostering

Cornwall County Council

Tel: 01872 323638
Email: fostering@cornwall.gov.uk

Devon County Council

Tel: 01392 383808
foster@devon.gov.uk
www.devon.gov.uk/fostering



Torbay Council

Tel: 01803 208100
Email: fostercareservice@torbay.gov.uk



Working in partnership to protect children across the South West

**It is an offence not to notify children's services.
You could be risking a fine!**