

Private fostering: A shared responsibility

If a child under 16 (or 18 if disabled) lives with a non-close relative for 28 days or more, it may be private fostering. While many arrangements involve caring family or friends, vulnerable children can sometimes be at risk. Additionally, carers might miss out on vital support, training, and financial assistance.

Why notify the council?

It's a legal requirement, and doing so helps ensure the child's safety and the carer's access to support.

How you can help

- Encourage those involved to notify the council at fostering@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.
- Let them know they could miss out on support and that reporting is a legal obligation.
- Alternatively, you can report it yourself via the same email or our website.

