

# Are you looking after somebody else's child who is NOT a close relative?

This could be a private fostering arrangement.

What is

## Private Fostering?

A care arrangement, for more than 28 days, in which a child under 16 (or under 18 if they have a disability) is looked after (living with) somebody who is not:

- Their parent
- Their step parent
- Someone with parental responsibility or a legal order
- A close relation, defined as a 'grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt (whether full blood or half blood, or by marriage or civil partnership or step parent)'.

This arrangement is made by the carer and the person with parental responsibility, privately.

The law says that the Council must make sure that every child in a private fostering arrangement is safe and well looked after.



## What does this mean for me?

If you are aware of a private fostering arrangement, you must let us know. This isn't something to be worried about, we are here to help and support. You should let us know about the arrangement as soon as possible, even if it is in advance.

Your contact will be treated sensitively and with respect.

Please contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub in the first instance:

✉️ [MASH@Luton.gov.uk](mailto:MASH@Luton.gov.uk)

☎️ 01582 547653

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