

# Private fostering

Private fostering is when a child or young person under the age of 16 (or under 18 if disabled) is cared for, and provided with accommodation for 28 days or more, by an adult who is not a close relative. Close relatives include aunts, uncles, step-parents, grandparents, siblings and step-siblings.

A child is not privately fostered if the person caring for and accommodating them has done so for less than 28 days and does not intend to do so for longer. Such arrangements may come to the attention of school staff through the normal course of their interaction, and promotion of learning activities, with children. The school should then notify the local authority to allow the local authority to check the arrangement is suitable and safe for the child.

Private fostering arrangements can be reported to the local authority using the following link:-

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/privatefostering>

You can also contact a member of the Harefield Academy Safeguarding Team

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